

Lessons on Persistent Prayer!

Sunday November 1, 2020
Series: 1 Kings – Lessons from the Journey

“The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.” James 5:16 ESV

“so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold” 1 Peter 1:7a ESV

God Has Me Where I Am to Teach Me to Pray

What AM I Doing Here?

*“And Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD, more than all who were before him.”
1 Kings 16:30 ESV*

*“Now Elijah the Tishbite, of Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, “As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, before whom I stand, there shall be neither dew nor rain these years, except by my word.””
1 Kings 17:1 ESV*

*“Has it not been told my lord what I did when Jezebel killed the prophets of the LORD, how I hid a hundred men of the LORD’s prophets by fifties in a cave and fed them with bread and water?”
1 Kings 18:13 ESV*

The Safest Place on Earth is the Center of God’s Will

“So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.” Psalm 90:12 ESV

“O LORD, make me know my end and what is the measure of my days; ... Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths,” Psalm 39:4a–5a ESV

“The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.” James 5:16 ESV

Prayer My Be My First Response in Crisis

Why Is This Happening to Me Now?

“After this the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, became ill. And his illness was so severe that there was no breath left in him.” 1 Kings 17:17 ESV

Why Does God Allow Evil? (Short Answer: Free Will)

Four Spheres of Evil in the Creation

- **Impacts Us Physically—Disease and Calamity**
- **Impact Us Personally—Sin Force**
- **Impacts Us Spiritually**

“For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.” Ephesians 6:12 ESV

- **Impacts Us Eternally—Eternal Judgment**

She Attacks God, God's Messenger and Herself

"And she said to Elijah, "What have you against me, O man of God? You have come to me to bring my sin to remembrance and to cause the death of my son!""
1 Kings 17:18 ESV

"And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him."
John 9:2-3 ESV

Our Response When Face with Crisis

-Engage the Situation

"And he said to her, "Give me your son." And he took him from her arms and carried him up into the upper chamber where he lodged, and laid him on his own bed."
1 Kings 17:19 ESV

-Pray

"And he cried to the LORD, "O LORD my God, have you brought calamity even upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by killing her son?""
1 Kings 17:20 ESV

"Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth."
James 5:17 ESV

My Prayer Unleashes God's Power to Work

Will I Make a Difference for God?

"Then he stretched himself upon the child three times and cried to the LORD, "O LORD my God, let this child's life come into him again. And the LORD listened to the voice of Elijah. And the life of the child came into him again, and he revived. And Elijah took the child and brought him down from the upper chamber into the house and delivered him to his mother. And Elijah said, "See, your son lives.""
1 Kings 17:21-23 ESV

My Prayer is a Manifestation of My Faith

"He said to them, "Because of your little faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you.""
Matthew 17:20 ESV

God May Choose to Answer a Different Way

"And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him."
1 John 5:14-15 ESV

"And the woman said to Elijah, "Now I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the LORD in your mouth is truth.""
1 Kings 17:24 ESV

What in My Life is Worth Praying For?

"The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."
James 5:16 ESV