



## Prayer

June 25, 2023

Are you intimidated by those who pray eloquently or by those that are comprehensive and all-inclusive in their prayers? How would you like to improve your prayers?

### **Read: Mark 18:1-8**

How does this passage relate persistence to faith?

### **Read: Matthew 6:7-8**

How should knowing that “God knows what we need before we ask” influence our perceived necessity of lengthy prayers? Do you sometimes feel that a short prayer will not yield big results or that the bigger the problem the lengthier the prayer needs to be? What does God want to hear from our prayers the most?

### **Read the following examples of short prayers:**

Matthew 6:9-13 (The Lord’s Prayer)

Isaiah 38:1-6 (The prayer of Hezekiah)

1 Chronicles 4:10 (The prayer of Jabez)

Acts 3:6-8 (Peter Heals the Beggar)

Acts 16:16-18 (Paul Casts Out a Demon from a Slave Girl)

1 Kings 17:17-23 (Elijah Raises the Dead)

How does the brevity of each of these prayers affect your idea of the power of prayer?

### **Read James 5:16-18**

Is faith, earnestness, passion, or persistence affected by the length of a prayer?

Alex noted a direct connection between the number of people willing to change their service time and the number of conversions that occurred in his own church. Does this change your perspective on accommodating the lost in our church? If you normally attend the 10:00 o'clock gathering will you commit to parking in the express parking area this summer and/or changing your gathering time to accommodate visitors?

End your time together with each member praying a short, simple, and direct prayer.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

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