



MESSAGE NOTES

February 8, 2022

Prayer School

1. Throughout our day we confessed "I am in Right Standing with God"
2. We took the time to see ourselves standing before God as if we've never done a thing wrong.
3. We allowed God's Declaration over us in Romans 5:9 (TPT) "You are now righteous in my sight," be bigger than the voice of sin or past mistakes.

Why is this important, that we develop within us a righteousness consciousness?

~ Having a righteousness mindset causes you to pray like a spiritual adult!

There is a quiet confidence that "adults" have - they stand tall in the face of difficulty and opposition because they "know in Whom they have believed." (2 Timothy 1:12) and they know who they are in Him (Acts 19:13-16)

Hebrews 5:11-14 (TPT)

11 We have much to say about this topic although it is difficult to explain, because you have become too dull and sluggish to understand.

12 For you should already be professors instructing others by now; but instead, you need to be taught from the beginning the basics of God's prophetic oracles! You're like children still needing milk and not yet ready to digest solid food.

13 For every spiritual infant who lives on milk is not yet pierced by the revelation of righteousness.

14 But solid food is for the mature, whose spiritual senses perceive heavenly matters. And they have been adequately trained by what they've experienced to emerge with understanding of the difference between what is truly excellent and what is evil and harmful.

Q : What's the difference between a 'spiritual infant' and a 'spiritual adult?'

A : Spiritual adults "know" (mindful of and live out) their right standing with God!

Righteousness

Righteousness Means :

~ Right Standing with God.

~ A standing before Him knowing, that because of Jesus I've done nothing wrong.

~ Righteousness comes ONLY as a gift. By believing in the finished works of Jesus.

~ Righteousness is not a result of anything we do or could do.

The Righteous Have God's full Attention when they Pray :

Psalms 34:17 (NKJV) "The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles."

Proverbs 15:29 (NLT) "The LORD is far from the wicked, but he hears the prayers of the righteous."

1 Peter 3:12 (AMPC) "For the eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous (those who are upright and in right standing with God), and His ears are attentive to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who practice evil [to oppose them, to frustrate, and defeat them]."

James 5:16 (AMPC) "...The earnest (heartfelt, continued) prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available [dynamic in its working]."

Approaching Our Father —> Reverence

Hebrews 5:7 "While Jesus was here on earth, he offered prayers and pleadings, with a loud cry and tears, to the one who could rescue him from death. And God heard his prayers because of his deep reverence for God."

*Jesus was heard because of His attitude and approach to God = Deep Respect.

Fear of the Lord :

~ I have deep respect (honour) for God, His Word and His Ways.

~ I'm not afraid of Him - I'm afraid to be distant from Him.

~ I'm first of all interested in honouring and respecting the Lord before anyone.

Proverbs 1:7

(TPT) "We cross the threshold of true knowledge when we live in obedient devotion to God. Stubborn know-it-alls will never stop to do this, for they scorn true wisdom and knowledge."

Those that walk in 'The Fear of The Lord' walk in close intimacy with Him

Psalms 25:12-14 (NLT)

"12 Who are those who fear the Lord? He will show them the path they should choose.

13 They will live in prosperity, and their children will inherit the land.

14 The Lord is a friend to those who fear him. He teaches them his covenant."

Effective Prayer comes from my Heart, not my head

Isaiah 56:7 (NKJV)

"Even them I will bring to My holy mountain, And make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices Will be accepted on My altar; For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations."

~ One of the reasons we have had difficulty in our prayer life is because we've made it complicated. (We've added rules, and regarded it so spiritually lofty that it's hard to do or measure up).

~ Prayer is simple = it is communication with God!

~ Prayer is the most natural thing to a Believer as breathing is to us physically. Our spirits cry out to God "Abba Father" regularly (Romans 8:15).

~ Prayer is who you are, not something you do - Look again at Isaiah 56:7.

God's house is not a building made of hands

The house of prayer isn't this Church building or a sanctuary.

REALITY : YOU ARE GOD'S HOUSE OF PRAYER.

When this becomes a reality to you, you'll stop straining and manufacturing words to make your prayer sound spiritual. Instead, you'll start expressing your heart to God.

Instead of constructing the perfect prayer, you can simply be honest and open with Him.

Ex) You may say —> "I don't know how to do that. Every time I pray, I freeze up. It's like I hit a brick wall." Then tell God about it. Say to Him —> "Father, I want to talk to You. But I seem to be hitting a brick wall and not able to express myself. I don't know what to do about it. So I'm asking You for help."

Sound childishly simple - it is and supposed to be!

TRUTH - a prayer like that spoken from the heart will produce far greater results than the most thought out prayer in the mind.

WHY? - James 5:16 "The heartfelt prayer...makes tremendous power available."

EFFECTIVE PRAYING COMES FROM THE HEART, NOT THE HEAD

Not one time does the Bible say to pray from our minds. Again, because God is a spirit. And our contact with Him is "spirit to spirit" communication.

Getting Honest with God

Getting honest with God 1 Samuel 1 - we see Hannah, a woman greatly distressed at not having any children. Adding to her sorrow was the fact that her husband had another wife who could hear children and provoked Hannah by mocking her barren condition.

1 Samuel 1:1-18 (NLT)

Q : How did Hannah get such tremendous results?

Through mechanically applying a formula for answered prayer? No!

She got it by pouring out her heart honestly and openly to God and by believing He heard and answered her prayer just as the priest said He would.

If your Sensing barrenness in your prayer life, you may need to do the same thing.

Lamentations 2: 19 "Rise during the night and cry out. Pour out your hearts like water to the Lord. Lift up your hands to him in prayer..."

Your soul is like a container, it has many things inside it. Most people just try to relate to God from the surface of that container, so their relationship with Him remains very superficial.

You may need to open up the spiritual container or closet door and simply let everything fly out before the Lord.

GET HONEST!

~ Talk about the problems in our attitudes and motivations, and ask God to change them.

~ Did you know you can keep God out of certain areas of your life by refusing to expose them to Him? You can close the door on Him by failing to communicate with Him honestly about them and trying to act like something you're not.

On the other hand, you can throw open the door with simple honesty in prayer by saying, "God, did You know what I thought about this morning? It was horrible. Forgive me and please help me in this area."

This type of prayer is cleaning out the closet.

There will be things that need to be confessed. Other things cast over on Him. Then other things that need to be discussed, sorted out and rearranged. There may be some Big things, too hard to articulate, you can pray in other tongues on those.

If your "closet" hasn't been cleaned out for a while, it may take more than one prayer session; clean it till you sense completion. Then from now on keep your container or closet uncluttered by being open with Him, straight from the heart.

This Week's Focus :

- ~ Get the Clutter out
- ~ Take the time to get with the Lord and open the spiritual "door"
- ~ Give Him access to those areas that haven't been opened in a while

