

TRUSTING GOD THROUGH THE POWER OF PRAYER

PRAYER

BREAKTHROUGH PRAYER

1. This week we spent some time talking about prayer. What do you think of this quote on prayer: "We agree with Martin Luther that prayer is "the calling of all Christians." We know that Andrew Murray is right when he calls prayer "the root and strength of all we do." So we pray, knowing that there can be no effective preaching, no persuasive evangelism, no committed discipleship, and no cultural transformation without fervent prayer."- Philip Graham Ryken

- Do you think you prioritize prayer in the way that you should?

2. This week we discussed breakthrough prayer. A breakthrough is defined as: **the act of overcoming or moving through an obstacle or barrier.** We talked about breakthrough in the areas of temptation, emotional issues, financial issues and anything you would consider a miracle. Do you need a breakthrough? Specifically identify the breakthrough you need. Many people feel unprepared and inadequate when it comes to praying for a breakthrough, that's why the first step is to know who you are in Christ.

3. Read Romans 8:15-17 (NLT) So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, "Abba, Father." 16 For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children. 17 And since we are his children, we are his heirs. In fact, together with Christ we are heirs of God's glory. But if we are to share his glory, we must also share his suffering. Based on this scripture who are you in Christ? Should that affect how you pray? Does it?

4. Knowing that we are God's adopted, beloved children is really important, but let's also examine God's posture toward our prayer. Does God want us to approach him with Bold breakthrough prayers? Read Hebrews 4:14, 16 Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. 16 Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. According to this verse, how should we approach God's throne with our breakthrough prayers?

- According to this verse, how should we approach God's throne with our breakthrough prayers?
- Now Read Ephesians 3:12 In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence. Clearly, because of Jesus we are called to approach God boldly with freedom and confidence. Is this how you approach him? How does this teaching go from words on the page to truth in your heart?

5. When it comes to praying breakthrough prayers, we should pray boldly, specifically and persistently. We see this in Jesus's instruction to ask, seek and knock. Mark Batterson says "Bold prayers honor God, and God honors bold prayers. God isn't offended by your biggest dreams or boldest prayers. He is offended by anything less." Do you agree with this quote?

- Do you generally pray boldly, specifically and persistently? Which of those three comes easiest to you? Which is most difficult?

6. How will you proceed from this study to seek breakthrough in your life?