

INSPIRED WORD
March 8, 2017

PRAYER

Lord Jesus, tonight we come to You here in this place and we lay it all down before You. Thank You for calling us to be here. We thank You for this community, for Your love, and for the beautiful weather. And most of all, Lord God, we thank You so much for the gift of Your Son! Lord, we give You our hearts, we give You our lives, and we thank You for being present here tonight. Amen.

PRAYER

Lord, we want to know You; to experience You as we draw close to You. We want to come into a deeper relationship with You, Lord, here in this place tonight. Open our hearts with a touch of Your grace, Your love and Your mercy. Glory to You, O Lord!

SCRIPTURE

Daniel 7: 13 – 14: As the night visions continued, I saw One like a son of man coming on the clouds of heaven; when He reached the Ancient One and was presented before Him, He received dominion, glory, and kingship; nations and peoples of every language serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not be taken away, His kingship shall not be destroyed.

SCRIPTURE

Psalms 139: 1 – 4, 13 – 18: Lord, You have searched me and You know me. You know me when I sit and when I rise; You perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down; You are familiar with all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue You know it completely, O Lord. For You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from You when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, Your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in Your book before one of them came to be. How precious to me are Your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand. When I awake, I am still with you.

PRAYER

Lord, You created this vast universe and all of the stars, and You call each of them by name. Lord, You call each one of us by name as well. You saw us from the moment of our conception and cared for us even before we were born. You care for us even now, in all aspects of our lives – in sickness, in health, in difficulties. We thank You for that, Lord; we thank You for loving us that much, and never letting us go.

PROPHECY

Now I say to you, My beloved, be still and silence yourselves, for I desire to do what you have called. I desire to fill you with My Presence and My glory. Again I say to you, be

still, quiet yourselves, and prepare yourselves. I desire to change your hearts, but you must allow Me to do that, My beloved. **Never will I force Myself upon you**, but with Your permission I will change you. I am your Lord, thy God; I come to you in a humble manner, desiring to gift you with strength, with courage, with boldness, with energy, and with light. As you have heard, I have known you before you were born, and I have allowed you to choose your direction. I have heard in your hearts your call for Me and I am here now to answer that call. **Say to Me that you desire that! Say to Me that you wish to surrender to Me! Say to Me that you are ready!** I say to you, be not afraid! There are so many who need Me, who need My love, and I am calling on you, My beloved ones, to speak the words that those people need to hear! I have chosen you, and I have told you that I have gifted you. **Have you said to Me, “Here I am, Lord, here I am, Lord”?** **Will you speak those words to Me, will you allow Me to send you forth?** How often have you heard Me say, “I love you”? I speak those words again, “I love you!” But this time I say to you, “Those words will have **no** meaning **unless you trust in Me and accept them into your hearts**. I have not come to you demanding; I have come to you answering that which you have sung to Me. **Accept ALL that I give to you, believe in it, trust in it, and use it! It is real! It is true! It comes from Me, the great I AM!** My promises are true, My promises are real! **Do not doubt, do not be afraid, but believe, trust, accept, and then give!** I have asked you to prepare yourselves; again I ask you, “Will you surrender to Me so that I may fill your hearts with all that you need to go forth and spread My love to others?” This is not a time for you to be still; **this is now a time to use what you have been given!** Let the smile on your face be a light, be a joy; raise your heads, open your eyes, let others know that I am within you, let others know that I love you. Let others know that you are joyful and happy, and that the circumstances are not keeping you down. **Let others know that I love them, that I call them, and that they can have what I have given you!**

IMAGE / EXHORTATION / PRAYER

I had an image of what looked like a treasure chest, and it was closed. It's as if He is asking us to open that chest to Him, not to be afraid of what we take out of it, but to open it to Him so that He may put into it those gifts and things that we need. So Lord, help us by Your grace to open those chests to You, to receive and to open our hearts to You.

SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 10: 23 – 24: Let us hold on firmly to the hope we profess, for He Who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.

TEACHING

Deacon Chuck speaking: Tonight we are looking into putting prayer into practice. In a few minutes we are going to break up into groups of three and each group will pray for each other in their group. Tonight we heard about the love of God for each of us, and about using the gifts which we have been given. I am going to walk you through a very simple way of praying for a person. The first step is to recognize who you are, and Who

God is. In the “Our Father” prayer, we say, “Our Father Who art in heaven”, what does that mean to us? It means that we are His children. It means that the Father loves us, that we are His sons and daughters, and that we belong to Him. We are loved by Him, and because we are loved by Him, we are sent and called to reach out to others. So the first foundation of praying for anyone is to come with a heart of love; a heart of love who recognizes the Father Who loves us, the heart of love to respond to His calling, and the love of the person who we will pray with. When Christ prayed for people, He touched them because He loved them. When we pray with people, we do that because we are called to love them. So we are standing there with that knowledge of love and we just ask a question, “How may I pray for you? What prayer needs do you have?” Then we could ask, “May I place a hand on your shoulder as I pray with you?” Usually most people will say yes to that. Put your hand on their shoulder and **then silently, before you say anything, get in tune with the Holy Spirit.** A good way to do that is to pray silently in Prayer Tongues, if you have that gift. It sensitizes you to the Spirit and opens up our ability to pray. If you don’t have that gift, then silently ask the Spirit to come before you pray for the person – **“Come, Holy Spirit, come!”** Then you speak out loud and it is good to begin with praise – “Lord, I praise You and I thank You for ‘Mary’ who is with me here.” Then you speak the prayer need which ‘Mary’ has already told you – “Lord, ‘Mary’ told me about her daughter of whom she is very concerned because her daughter is walking in the wrong direction. I ask You, Lord, to touch ‘Mary’ where she is right now; touch her with Your peace and Your wisdom. Lord, bring peace to that family; show her daughter the way that she should walk.” After you speak, then remain silent again and pray in Prayer Tongues one more time. Listen for anything that the Holy Spirit might tell you, because the Spirit may show you something about that daughter, like giving you an image, or a scripture, or a word for that person. Just take your time and at the end, thank God for bringing the person to you and for hearing and answering your prayer. We have to **trust in God and trust in His love when we pray for a person.**

We know that God always hears us, and we know that He always answer and that is because He loves us. We believe that the words in scripture are true when Jesus said, “This is My Body and this is My Blood.” We also believe: “Ask and you shall receive; seek and you shall find; knock and the door shall be opened to you. How much more would I give the Holy Spirit to those who ask?” We believe that too, don’t we? When we come before the Lord with that certainty, we know that the Lord will answer us. But sometimes God does not answer in the way in which we prayed because He knows what is best in that situation and at that time, and He calls us to trust in Him.

So let’s break into groups of three people right now. This is not just a practice technique, this is bringing the love of the Lord into the situation for whom we are praying. It is real!

(Various people sharing the things they experienced in these praying groups of three.)

