

VISION SERIES - Life Group Notes

PRAYER



CONNECT QUESTIONS

If you could go back to one of the miracles of Jesus and witness it in person, which one would you go to and why?

What do you think is the best eating establishment in Wellington?

The disciples who walked with Jesus never asked him how to do a miracle – this is because they knew the key – they saw the way Jesus prayed - instead they asked Jesus to teach them how to pray! What is the aspect of your prayer life that you think you are confident in? What aspect of your prayer life do you need to grow in?

Prayer shifts things and opens doors! Consider the heritage of our Elim church here in the city with the investment of these two men:

SMITH WIGGLESWORTH – man of prayer – did many miracles (we have the log books and newspaper clippings from 1922) – when he would pray – anyone in the room with him would often crawl out overcome with the presence of God – he was a man of prayer!

JEFFRIES – would send a prayer team ahead of him into a city then after a season would come and run meetings. He would do meetings faithfully (even for a few) until miracles started – then he would send the prayer team head of hi to the next place, while he established a church – again a man who knew the significance of prayer!

What stands out to you from the prayer life of these two men? How do their examples challenge you in your prayer life?

NOW IS THE TIME! Check out **Jeremiah 33v3**. What are you currently believing God for in prayer?

Check out **Isaiah 56:7**. Joy comes when we spend time in God's house in prayer. Joy is not dependent on our circumstances – real joy is experiencing calm in the storm – despite what is going on around us, prayer releases joy, peace and hope! Has this been your experience? What do you think are the keys to experiencing this joy?

Prayer is supposed to be a 2-way conversation – God knows our needs (our prayer list) – he is more concerned with a connection, an intimacy, a relationship with us! We have been saved by grace (Ephesians 2:4-5). God loves you with an everlasting love, and longs to have a connection with you and to speak to you. How do you hear God's voice? What has God been saying to you lately?

The book of Psalms is like a prayer book. Psalm 1 talks about having a heart for the Word of God, and Psalm 2 talks about the return of the King – Jesus! These two psalms (which are the main themes of the whole book of Psalms) give us a two-fold focus for our prayer lives: Firstly that we have a heart for God's word – and that God's word is lived out in our lives (living Word), and that we prepare the way for the return of Jesus. Why do you think these two things are significant? How do you live these out practically in your day to day?

Sometimes we think that if Jesus was really standing here next to us, we could really do some exciting things! The reality is that he is with us! He has sent us the Holy Spirit – his comforter. However, the Holy Spirit can't comfort us if we are in our comfort zone – are there any areas of your life where you need to get 'uncomfortable'?

PRAYER

Pray and ask God for a fresh heart and passion towards prayer

Pray for one another – share prayer requests and believe together for answered prayer

Pray for a release of the miraculous!