

## **“What Good is Praying?”**

Some people ask, “What good is praying?” They argue that God is going to do, what He has planned anyway. Prayer won’t change God’s mind. So why pray?

Matthew 6: Jesus said, <sup>8</sup> **“Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him. <sup>9</sup> In this manner, therefore, pray:**

**There are many instances throughout scripture where we are reminded to have faith and pray to God the Father.**

James 5: <sup>16</sup> Confess *your* trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. <sup>17</sup> Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. <sup>18</sup> And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.

**There are many occurrences throughout scripture that those that had faith and prayed for the will of God received an answer.**

Hebrews 11: <sup>5</sup> By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, *“and was not found, because God had taken him”*; for before he was taken he had this testimony, that he pleased God. <sup>6</sup> But without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

**Sometimes the answer was not the one they wanted to hear. Prayer may not always change our circumstances – it may be meant to change us.**

Consider Job 19: 1-4a: “How long will you torment me and crush me with words? Ten times now you have reproached me; shamelessly you attack me. It is true that I have gone astray...”

**God created human beings for fellowship with him. God created man in His own image. God gave humans dominion over all the earth. God desires humans to reach their full potential and God loves us and acts to restore fallen humans to their rightful place in the kingdom.**

**God is caring and deeply concerned for our welfare. God can and will answer the prayers addressed to Him. We are dependant on God’s good will and on His grace.**

**We can freely and spontaneously express our every need to Him, as well as offer praise and thanksgiving. And we can be sure that God hears our prayers and will act in our best interest simply because of His compassion, love and grace.**

**AMEN**

### **Comment**

Good lesson William, often we forget the power of prayer and need to be reminded. God has answered many prayers in a way that I could see that it was a direct result of my prayer. Thanks