



Chair Chat



Volume 46 No. 30

June 20th, 2016

The Power of Prayer

I seem to get emails every week in my inbox from various Christian news-letters, preachers, church advertisements, etc. that are always talking about “the Power of Prayer.” I heard this term mentioned week after week as I grew up...You can probably think of a few examples of your own, like: You gotta believe in the power of prayer...Isn't prayer just so powerful? We really need to pray more because prayer has power.

God is not moved by eloquent speech, or by how many Scripture verses we throw into a prayer, He's not moved if we bow our heads, fold our hands, or squeeze our eyes shut extra tight. It doesn't matter if we kneel or stand or pray while standing on a mountain top. Prayer, in and of itself is NOTHING! The real force that gives prayer its effectiveness is our relationship with the Father. When we simply and sincerely seek Him and talk to Him just as a man talks with a friend, this is the essence of prayer. Prayer moves the hand of God...! Let me just state this ever so plainly...Prayer is simply communication with our Heavenly Father. That's it.

Today, we have a lot of things to pray over...people in our own congregation that need prayer for healing, financial issues, issues of addiction, people in the pews and people in the pulpit, massacre in Orlando, a child killed by an alligator and the list goes on and on. Each week I've heard Pastor Paul ask us to pray for each other...by name and if you had a moment to pray for Pastor Paul...That time has come! As most of you know, Pastor Paul has cancer and the doctors can only do so much...all of us need to go to the Father and pray for Pastor Paul's recovery and his family, including Molly.

Here are a few scriptures that talk about prayer:

Matthew 7:7 “Ask, and it will be given to you, seek and you will find; knock and it will be opened to you.”

Matthew 21:22 “And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith.”

Mark 11:24 “Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.”

John 14:13-14 “Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask my anything in my name, I will do it.”

In every Scripture God promises us that if we pray sincerely the door will be opened, you shall receive, it will be yours, and I will do it...My prayer for you today is that you take these **Bible verses** you just read and do something with them.

Prayer is the most powerful method humans have to cure and overcome situations. It's a direct line to our creator. Let's us band together and send our prayers to our Father asking for cures, mercy and peace. Praise Him for what He has done and what He will do. His will be done.

God Bless

Mike

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