

6/11/2023 - Speaker: Mark Humphreys

Series: "Foundations"

Scripture: Philippians 4:4-13, 19

Message: Prayer: Connecting with God!

WHAT IS PRAYER?

- **What prayer isn't....**

- ... a coin for vending machine to put a prayer in and pull.

- ... a way to present God with a wish as if he was a genie

- ... a way to bargain/plead with God to get what you want

- ... a "get-rich-quick" or "name-it-and-claim-it" system

- ... a measurement of piety or righteousness to impress

- ... something only the most righteous people can do

- ... a substitute for human responsibility

Any of these, and others, brings God to our level and insults His character and who He is

- **What prayer is...**

- ... a way to commune and communicate with God

- ... a means to offer praise and gratitude to God for who He is and all that He has done and continues to do for us

- ... a means to bring ourselves into the presence of God so that His character and presence can give us strength in the moment and fill us

- ... a personal, two-way conversation with the Almighty that involves expressing our concerns and listening for His response

- ... seeking the mind of God on a particular matter that's on our heart

- ... connecting with God in order to transfer His Will into our life

- ... collaborating with God to accomplish His Will and purpose

Prayer is the conversation that turns salvation into a close personal relationship with God

WHY PRAY?

I. Praying is a _____ of the Christian life. (v. 6)

(Romans 12:12; Colossians 4:2)

3 types of prayer...

(*"Prayer"* by Richard Foster)

- Prayer that focuses _____. (vs. 4)

- Prayer that focuses _____. (vs. 5-7, 8)

- Prayer that focuses _____. (vs. 6, 9-10)

I. Prayer is a _____ (vs. 11-13)

(Romans 5:1-5; Hebrews 10:19-22)

II. Praying is a _____ God uses to bring His Will to pass. (vs. 4-13, 19)

(Ephesians 1:11; Matthew 6:8-11; Romans 12:2)

- We pray with _____.

- We pray with _____.

- We pray with _____.

Key: Priority, upward, inward, outward, Privilege, Powerful means, confidence, purpose, power