

- I. The God of the galaxies
wants His children to talk to Him
- A. He hears
- B. He answers
- II. Our prayer privilege can be
polluted by improper postures
- A. For the approval of others
- B. To manipulate God
- III. The King gives us prayer principles
- A. Pray in secret
- B. Pray to your Father
- Matt 6:5-8;
Ex 19:16-24; 20:20;
Prov 14:27
- Ps 5:3; 18:6; 28:6;
Ps 31:22; 55:17; 66:16-20;
I Pet 3:7; I John 1:9
- Ps 3:4; 17:6; 30:2-3;
Ps 55:16; 116:1-2;
James 5:17-18;
I Kings 17:1ff
- Acts 3:1; I Kings 18:36-39;
John 11:41-42
- Ps 33:3
- Matt 8:25; 14:30;
Acts 7:59-60; 9:13;
James 1:17; Eph 3:20-21;
John 16:26-27; Rom 8:26;
Eph 6:18; Jude 20

Care Group Questions

“And When You Pray . . .”

Text: Matt 6:5-8

Dave Bechtel

February 10, 2008

1. What kind of “prayer background” do you have? (e.g. Did your family pray at any time? What beliefs about how to pray did you develop as you were growing up, any “weird” experiences, etc.?)
2. Have you ever felt “pressure” when you were supposed to pray in the hearing of others? (How about in small group?) If so, what were you hoping your prayer would measure up to?
3. Do you have any examples of “vain repetitious” praying from your life or others in your life? If so, how did the idea of “if I just pray this way” show itself (e.g. prayer beads, repeating a certain prayer formula, etc.)
4. Do you have any prayer practices now that, if you’re not careful, could become “rote” (said without real meaning, like mealtime prayers, etc.)?
5. Jesus tells us to “pray in secret”? What is that an antidote for? What might that look like? When could a person do that?
6. Is praying in the presence of others wrong? (Explain your answer and, if possible, give an example from the Bible.)
7. To Whom, according to Jesus, do we pray? What might be some other alternatives that some might pray to?
8. How is your personal prayer life? (Do you pray in secret often? Do you stay in touch with the Lord throughout the day? Etc.) Anything the Lord might want you to do to improve it?

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