

Pray with a Purpose

Session 2: Does Prayer Change Anything?

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Note: Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture passages are taken from the New International Version (2011), Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

1. A Strong Faith

1. A Strong Faith: The Promises of Jesus

“Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move. **Nothing will be impossible for you.**”

Matthew 17:20

Assumptions within this passage

- Disciples were depending on their own authority, ability or power.
- Ultimately, the problem is not the obstacle.
- God, not our faith, changes things.
- Through prayer, God engages us in His work of change.

1. A Strong Faith

“Now faith is ***confidence*** in what we hope for and ***assurance*** about what we do not see.”

Hebrews 11:1

Assumptions within these passages

- Faith is knowledge and trust of a Person, regardless of our subjective view of events; prayer deepens this trust relationship.
- Faith takes up beyond what experience, and even science can demonstrate. Prayer addresses the unseen.
- Prayer builds our faith, and faith informs our prayer.

"Immediately the boy's father exclaimed, 'I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!'"

Mark 9:24

2. A Trusting Faith

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“But he said to me, ‘***My grace is sufficient for you***, for my power is made perfect in weakness.’”

2 Corinthians 12:9

3. A Righteous Faith

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"You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. When you ask, **you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.**"

James 4:2b-3

3. A Righteous Faith

“Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.”

1 Peter 3:7

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Conclusion
