

32 Days of Powerful Prayer

- A. Many of us naturally think of the greatness of God in terms of his right to demand service (*Isa 64:8*).
- B. But consider another dimension of the greatness of God revealed in *Isaiah 64:4*. A common thread that continues to appear in *Acts 17:24-25*, *Mark 10:45*, *2 Chronicles 16:9*, and beyond.
- C. One very special way this characteristic of God relates to us is prayer (*Phil 4:4-7*; *1 Pet 5:6-7*).

I. PRAYER: The Basics

- A. Prayer is not merely _____ something, thinking about something, or reciting some memorized lines with an unengaged heart.
- B. Prayer is the communicating of human thoughts to the infinite mind of God (*Rom 10:1*).
- C. Throughout his written revelation to mankind, God presents himself as a God who _____ (*Psa 3:3-4*; *18:6*; *34:4-7,15*).
 - 1. While the eyes and ears of the LORD are receptive to the righteous, iniquities create a _____; sins hide God's holy face from us (*Isa 59:1-2*).
 - 2. Our greatest need? _____ (*John 1:9-13*; *Acts 2:37-38*; *Rom 6:3-4*; *8:16*; *1 John 3:1*).
 - 3. How does Jesus teach his disciples to pray? "Our _____ in heaven..." (*Matt 6:9*).

II. REALIZE: Prayerlessness is a Form of Childish _____

- A. From a practical point-of-view: the things I pray about are the things I trust God to handle. The things I neglect to pray about? Those are the things I feel capable of handling on my own.
- B. The danger of treating prayer as _____ rather than _____.
 - 1. The example of Jonah (*1:1-10*).
 - 2. To pray is to love; not to pray is to be complacent, unloving, and selfish.
- C. We can do more than pray *after* we've prayed, but we can't do more than pray until we've prayed! (*James 5:16*)

III. HELP: Seven Ways to Engage Your Heart in Prayer

- A. _____ – "You are the greatest treasure of my heart" (*Psa 37:4*).
- B. _____ – "Help me align the affections of my heart with yours" (*Matt 6:21*).
- C. _____ – "Keep me aware of you as my greatest need" (*John 15:5*).
- D. _____ – "Train me in the fight to love the good and abhor the evil" (*Heb 5:14*).
- E. _____ – "Be the strength my prone-to-wander heart needs" (*Psa 73:23-26*).
- F. _____ – "I trust you to do whatever you must for my good" (*Heb 12:10-11*).
- G. _____ – "I pledge to faithfully serve you for the rest of my life" (*1 Cor 15:58*; *Rev 2:10*).