NOTES

LESSON 3: PRINCIPLES OF EFFECTIVE PRAYER

Daniel 9:19

O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord, hearken and do; defer not, for thine own sake, O my God: for thy city and thy people are called by thy name.

Daniel is a man who understood the value of prayer.

Daniel 1:17-18
Daniel requested the prayer of his friends; Shadrach, Meshach, and Adednego.

Daniel 6:10
Daniel prays even when he knows it carries a death penalty.

The result of effective prayer is divine action and divine revelation. God spared them both from Nebuchadnezzar and Darius. God revealed the interpretation of dreams, and even coming events in the history of the world.

8 Principles of Effective Prayer

Principle #1: You Must Have God's Attention

Matthew 6:6 *But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret...*

When God has your attention, you have His attention.

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Principle #2: Pray Beyond "Through"
Daniel said hear, then he asked God to hearken. Effective prayer takes place once we are fully in the presence of God. When you feel His presence, it's a starting point, not the end goal.

Principle #3: You Can't Pray Around Sin
The great prayer warriors (Daniel, Nehemiah, etc.) of the Bible not only repented of their sins, but of the sins of others. (Daniel 19:20, Nehemiah 1:6)

Don't reject the feeling of **conviction of sin**. Conversely, don't allow the feeling of condemnation derail your prayers, either.

Principle #4: Pray Specific Prayers

General prayers require no faith.

Luke 17:5-6 / Matthew 17:20

Principle #6: Pray Prayers of Faith

Hebrews 11:6 *But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.*

Three Faith Builders:

- Hearing the Word of God (Romans 10:17)
- Praying in the Holy Ghost (Jude 20)
- Having your faith tests (Ephesians 3:20)

Principle #7: Understand Your Power With God

Exodus 32:9-14 ...*Now therefore **let me alone**, that my wrath may wax hot against them, and that I may consume them....*

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Numbers 12:3 *(Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.)*

Principle #8: God Communicates in Different Ways

I Kings 19:11-13 Elijah finds God in a still small voice.
Job 38:1 God speaks to Job out of the whirlwind
Exodus 19 Cloud, Thunderings, Lightning
Exodus 32 Judgement and Curses
Exodus 33 Like a man speakers unto his friend.
Exodus 34 Moses face shines