

The Power of Prayer

Message Series

Message One

"The Prayer"

March 6, 2022 || First Baptist Poinciana || Dr. Wayne Harrell, Senior Pastor

Prayer! Today we will lay the foundation for prayer, what is involved with prayer and how we can grow spiritually through our prayer life.

Using one verse as our springboard - Jeremiah 33:3 we will examine the fundamentals of prayer and how to strengthen our prayer life.

ABOUT JEREMIAH:

1. The weeping prophet - 9:1, 13:17
2. Reluctant prophet - 1:6
3. Lonely Prophet (told not to marry) - 16:2
4. Persecuted, rejected, ridiculed, beaten, and falsely accused - 11:18-23, 12:6, 15:10, 18:18, 20:1-3
5. Was a laughing stock - 26:1-24, 37-38
6. Kidnapped by his countryman and taken to Egypt - 43:1-7

NOTES:

1. THE LORD'S ILLUMINATION (vs.1)

- Jeremiah is found in prison (vs.1,)
- Not his first time (Jer. 32:2)

Prisons can be physical, like the one Jeremiah has been confined to, but prisons come in all shapes and sizes.

TYPES OF PRISONS: (*Jer. 32:2, 33:1, 2 Tim. 2:9*)

1. A **MENTAL** Prison - held captive by your mind (*2 Cor. 10:3-5*)
2. A **FINANCIAL** Prison - held captive by your financial situation.
3. A **RELATIONSHIP** Prison - you are in a relationship crisis over which you seem to have no control.
4. A **SPIRITUAL** Prison - you feel like you are completely unable to move forward spiritually.

Jeremiah couldn't get out BUT God could get in.
You can't stop the Word of God.

2. THE LORD'S IDENTIFICATION (VS. 2)

- God is reminding Jeremiah who He is.
- Jeremiah 33:2
 - Maker - Forming all things - Establishing all things -
 - "The LORD is His name"
 - "I Am the Lord" - Remember that.

NOTES:

3. THE LORD'S INVITATION (vs. 3)

- Call - the Hebrew word is || QARA
- Meaning to: Proclaim, Preach, Cry out loudly
- 528 times in scripture it is translated to : "Call Out"
- This is the invitation - to Call on the Lord.
- God invites each of us to call on Him.

There is an example of this :QARA in scripture || 1 Kings 18:26-39

1. Elijah mocks the prophets of Baal (vs 26-29) - no answer.
2. Elijah called the people around (getting ready to pray) (vs 30-35)

The Order of Events:

1. The altar was repaired
2. Wood was laid in order
3. The Sacrifice was put on
4. 12 barrels of water was poured over it
5. Then they began to pray.

What did this prayer look / sound like?

1. Acknowledged who God is - He is God
2. Acknowledged who they are - Servants
3. They "called out" - Cried out to the LORD.

The response to the Prayer (vs. 39)

1. Fell on their faces
2. Confessed "The LORD, He is God"
3. Repentance at the repaired altar

"We see the power of God when we call on Him in spite of our obstacles." - Pastor Wayne.

What obstacles (or) prison do you need to call out to the Lord from today? Are we short-changing ourselves because we fail to call on the Lord?

It's time to repair the altar and remember who we are praying to - The LORD, He is God.

SPECIAL NOTE: as we enter this Lent season I am asking that we, as a church begin to pray together to see God move as never before. I want to ask you to pray that we have an overflow of people on Easter Sunday Morning this year like never before - Pray for the number 700 or more. Begin asking friends, neighbors, co-workers to join us on Easter or before. Let's call out to God and watch Him show us great and mighty things that we cannot understand. Let's start today at the altar. (With other needs as well as we look to be a house of prayer)