

UNVEILING THE MYSTERY OF PRAYER

Nehemiah 1:4-2:8

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Prayer is NOT what we do to get God to do what we want.

Prayer is the means by which we fellowship with God so we can know Him and do His will.

Now it came about when I heard these words, I sat down and wept and mourned for days; and I was fasting and praying before the God of heaven. Nehemiah 1:4

What can we learn about prayer from the life of Nehemiah?

1. Prayer should start with praise.

Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant and praise is becoming. Psalm 147:1

2. Prayer must include confession.

If I regard wickedness in my heart, The Lord will not hear. Psalm 66:18

3. Prayer incorporates the Word of God.

4. Prayer asks God for great things.

Is anything to difficult for the LORD? Genesis 18:14

*Expect great things from God, attempt great things for God.
Missionary William Carey*

5. Prayer doesn't give up.

Jesus told his disciples a story to show that they should always pray and never give up. Luke 18:1

6. Prayer can be short at times if it is not short every time.

7. Prayer needs to be coupled with plans.

The horse is prepared for the day of battle, but victory belongs to the LORD. Proverbs 21:31

God invites you to really talk to Him.

FOR FURTHER REFLECTION

1. How is your prayer life on a scale of 1-10?
2. What keeps you from spending quality time with God?
3. Which of Nehemiah's prayer insights spoke to you?
4. What great thing does God desire to do through you?
5. Are you close to giving up on that prayer request because God doesn't seem to be answering? Don't quit!