



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC Be Prayerful

SPEAKER

DSP Low Kok Guan

THEME BE Series

DATE

1 & 2 Feb 2025

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

In Luke 11:2-4, one of Jesus' disciples asked Him how to pray and Jesus replied to tell them saying *"Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come; Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptations."*

Indeed, prayer shows who God is and allows us to refocus on our relationship with God.

THREE IMPORTANT REVELATIONS FROM PRAYER

DSP Low Kok Guan shared that prayer reveals to us three things: First, the grace of God. Second, the goodness of God. Third, guidance from God.

1) The Grace of God

When Jesus introduced God as "our Father", it shows us that Jesus wants us to have the same intimate relationship with God as He does. This is significant because the Jews who did not know Jesus had never known God as "Father", but Jesus' presence has redefined our relationship with God. This is also conveyed in John 1:12 which states "Yet to all who received Him, to those who believe in His name, He gave the right to become children of God."

As long as we receive Jesus and believe in Jesus, God becomes our Father, and we can communicate intimately, confidently and directly with God. With such a relationship with God, we are able to ask for His grace to "forgive our sins" (Luke 11:4) and be saved (Ephesians 2:8).

2) The Goodness of God

Through the use of the phrases "hallowed be Your name" and "Your Kingdom come" which alludes to God's holiness and Kingship, Jesus also reveals to us that prayer is a form of worship for God's goodness in our lives. We can rely on God for our "daily bread" (Luke 11:3), which signifies God's provision in our lives. In fact, God's goodness is also revealed to us in Luke Jesus 5:9-10, reminding us that if we ask, it will be given to us; if we seek, we shall find; and if we knock, the door will be opened.

DSP Low cautions however, that prayer is not about making deals with God, and that God is good all the time, regardless of whether our prayers are answered or not. In Romans 8:32 we are reminded,

“He who did not spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all – how will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things?” Indeed, how can we then ever doubt God’s goodness?

3) The Guidance from God

Finally, prayer also reveals to us God’s guidance, including His protection in leading us away from temptations (Luke 11:4). God is with us always (Matthew 28:20) and His guidance as we lead our lives can be seen through the Holy Spirit.

John 14:26 states that the Holy Spirit is our Helper sent by God, who will teach us and remind us of Jesus’ ways, including how to pray. As such, whenever we are at a loss of how to conduct our lives, we can be sure that the Holy Spirit is there to guide us as we pray to God.

CONCLUSION

Being prayerful is a journey. We must continually learn how to pray, and we must ask the Lord to teach us how to pray. That said, the ultimate goal of prayer is not an answered prayer, but to be in the presence of God. More importantly, prayer reveals to us God Himself. When we pray, we get to know God better, and we are able to become more and more like Him.

QUESTIONS

1. In your prayer journey, how have you personally experienced God's person and presence?

2. Share about a time when you prayed to God and your prayers went "unanswered". How did you reconcile that with God's goodness?

3. How do you pray? What would you say is your largest takeaway from this sermon with regards to how you can pray better or how you can pray differently?