**JESUS IS...THE PRAYER ANSWERER**

**John 14:12-14**

* **Prayer is the most powerful supernatural force at a Christian’s disposal.**
* *“The greatest tragedy of life is not unanswered prayer, but unoffered prayer.”* - F. B. Meyer

***Having A Powerful Prayer Life Requires:***

**MAKING PRAYER A PRIORITY**

* Jesus - *“But seek first the kingdom of God[k] and his righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you.”* (Matthew 6:33)
* **Our chief goal is not to please man, but to please God with everything we do.**
* *“Instead, just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not to please people, but rather God, who examines our hearts.”* (1 Thessalonians 2:4)
* **We often pray as a last resort, when prayer should be used as our starting point.**

***Having A Powerful Prayer Life Requires:***

**SETTING ASIDE A SACRED TIME**

* Jesus - *“But when you pray, go into your private room, shut your door, and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.”* (Matthew 6:6)
* **The mark of a powerful Christian is not the quality of their public walk with God, but the quality of their private walk with God.**
* **Jesus established early in His ministry that His sacred time with the Father would not be interrupted by the demands of the world around Him.** (See Mark 1:35-37)
* **A Sacred Time with God should be 1) Scheduled, 2) Consistent, 3) Uninterrupted, 4) Evaluated, and 5) Progressive.**

***Having a Powerful Prayer Life Requires:***

**LEARNING TO LISTEN TO GOD’S VOICE**

* **Our frustrations with God often come from too much talking and not enough listening.**
* *“Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and incomprehensible things you do not know.”* (Jeremiah 33:3)
* **Prayers are hindered by a lack of obedience and a lack of repentance.**
* *“Anyone who turns his ear away from hearing the law—even his prayer is detestable.”* (Proverbs 28:9)
* *“Treat (your wife) as you should so your prayers will not be hindered.”* (1 Peter 3:7 NLT)

***Having A Powerful Prayer Life Requires:***

**DEVELOPING PATIENCE AND ENDURANCE**

* *“Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. He asked Peter, ‘So, couldn’t you stay awake with me one hour? 41 Stay awake and pray, so that you won’t enter into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.’”* (Matthew 26:40-41)
* **Prayer is like running a marathon and requires patience, persistence and perseverance.**
* **There are many prayer requests that go unanswered because people get weary and give up before seeing results.** (See Galatians 6:9)

***Having A Powerful Prayer Life Requires:***

**EXPECTING POWERFUL RESULTS**

* Jesus - *“Truly I tell you, if anyone says to this mountain, ‘Be lifted up and thrown into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him.”* (Mark 11:23)
* **Prayer combined with expectation is what sets the stage for supernatural results.**
* **Anyone can learn to pray, and anyone who learns how to pray can have the power to change the world.**
* *“The power of prayer can never be overrated. They who cannot serve God by preaching need not regret. If a man can but pray he can do anything. He who knows how to overcome with God in prayer has Heaven and earth at his disposal.”* - Charles Spurgeon

**CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION**

* ***What are some things in your life getting in the way of your prayer life?***
* ***When would be the best time for you to establish a Sacred Time with God?***
* ***What are some areas where you need to obey and repent so that your prayers will not be hindered?***
* ***What are some prayers you stopped praying that you need to recommit to submit to God?***
* ***What is your big takeaway from this message?***