

AMEN

November 6, 2022

Another important component of prayer is asking. But how do we ask, and what do we ask for?.

Message Notes And Highlights

- P.R.A.Y. - P = Pause. Intentionally pause each day to meet with God.
- R = Reflect. Reflect on who you're talking to, his goodness, his greatness, his character.
- A = Ask.
- ...your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. | Matthew 6, v.10
- The purpose of prayer isn't to impose our will on God—it's to surrender our will to God.
- If you start by saying "Yes" to God's will first, you can take "No" or "Not now" for an answer.
- Why should we ask for anything in prayer?
- Asking God for something in prayer is his way of partnering with us in life.
- It's healthy to acknowledge that we need help.
- Asking God for something in prayer teaches us that God can be trusted.
- So often, if we look back, we can see how God has been working things out all along.
- Give us today our daily bread. | Matthew 6, v.11
- Ask for specific needs. When you pray specifically and incrementally, you're more likely to see God at work. You can see it and track it.
- Would I have recognized God's hand in this if I hadn't been praying specifically?
- And forgive us our debts, as we have also forgiven our debtors. | Matthew 6, v.12
- Ask for forgiveness. When you ask for forgiveness, it brings you closer together.
- And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. | Matthew 6, v.13
- Ask for protection. Ask for help living a God-led life.
- Prayer isn't about a transaction as much as it's about transformation.
- Read Matthew 7, verses 7-11. ("Ask and it will be given to you...")

Discussion Questions

1. Think about a time you've received a "No," a "Not yet," or even silence in response to something you've asked for in prayer. How have you processed or received that response?
2. Jesus teaches us to pray "Your kingdom come, your will be done," before we do any other asking in prayer. Why do you think he teaches us to do that?
3. When we ask in prayer, we should ask for specific needs, ask for forgiveness, and ask for protection. Of these three asks, which have helped you the most? Which do you struggle with (and why)?
4. How can you keep yourself from approaching prayer as a transaction, and instead approach it more as a way to allow yourself to be transformed?

