

The Power of a Praying Church

Lesson 6: When Prayer Becomes Your Lifestyle

Last week, we discussed how one man's prayers changed a nation; today, we will learn how one man's prayer life caused God to break the laws of nature by doing something that had never been done before. As a result of this man's prayer life, we now have a pattern for how a person (and a church) can became great in the eyes of God.

> Review: The Foundation Scripture for the Series

Psalms 65:2 (NKJV) *O* You who hear prayer, To You all flesh will come.

God's identity to us is wrapped up in the fact that ______

- This separates our God from all others who are called deities, from those false gods who are worshipped by humanity. Our God actually hears our prayers.
- Prayer is the ______ that God has ______ that allows us to interact with Him.

> Two Important Questions

- 1. Is God always with you?
- 2. Are you always with God?

> Our Goal

- As God's children, our goal (motivation) in life is to ______ Him.
- Nothing else should be more important to us than pleasing our God.

> Aligning Our Lives with God's Identity

- To become great in the eyes of God, our hearts must align with God's heart; our lives must be lived in a manner that fully pleases Him.



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_____ in God comes to a person when his or her identity

becomes ______ with God's identity.

- We have learned that God's identity to us is wrapped up in the fact that He hears our prayers.
- If God wants to respond to our prayers, then we should be people who live a lifestyle of prayer.

> Enoch: A Man Who Pleased God

Hebrews 11:5 (NKJV)

By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, "and was not found, because God had taken him"; for before he was taken he had this testimony, that <u>he pleased God</u>.

Question: What was so special about Enoch that God treated him with such favor and kindness so that he should ______?

Jude 1:14-15 (NKJV)

14 Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying,
"Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints,
15 To execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."

- Enoch was a prophet of God, and he was a righteous man who stood against sin and unrighteousness... but the same can be said about many other people in the Bible.
- Why did Enoch get the special treatment that others did not get, even other prophets and righteous men and women?



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> The Difference

There is only ______ thing the Bible ever records Enoch doing that

him from the rest of humanity.

Genesis 5:21-24 (NKJV) 21 Enoch lived sixty-five years, and begot Methuselah. 22 After he begot Methuselah, Enoch walked with God three hundred years, and had sons and daughters. 23 So all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years. 24 And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.

- Only two men in the Bible are said to have walked with God: ______ and
 - They both received uncommon grace and favor in God's eyes.
 - When God was about to destroy the entire world with a flood, only one man received His grace and was spared – Noah, a man who walked with God.
 - When God for the first time broke the pattern of life and death, He did it for a man who walked with Him - Enoch.

Walking with God

The one thing Enoch did that separated him from humanity was that he

Because he ______ with God, he _____ God.

- The Hebrew word translated as "walked" (*halak*) has these meanings:
 - To walk about, to walk around
 - To go along continually
 - To flow (like a river)
 - To be conversant



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Greatness in God

– Enoch found such greatness, such favor, because his lifestyle became

_____ with God's identity.

- He lived a ______ with a _____ with a God who desires to respond to our prayers.
- He _____ God!!!

James 4:8 (NKJV) Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.

- Does God know how to fail? _____!
- How can you fail when God's presence is always with you?
- How can you not achieve ______in God when He is wrapped up in you as you are wrapped up in Him?
- Homework Assignment: For the next week, focus on being continually aware of the presence of God; have an ongoing conversation with God throughout the day; walk around with God like Enoch walked with God.