

Just Pray!

Prayer:

Learning From Two Unlikely Experts

▶ Hannah's Story
1 Samuel 1:1-28

▶ The Canaanite Woman
Matthew 15:21-28

- Three common ingredients:

Persistency

Brokenness

Surrender

Prayer:

4 Keys To Talking With Dad

❶ We have to be on good terms.

Psalm 66:18, Proverbs 1:23-28, James 4:3, John 15:7

❷ Just come with what you have.

Ephesians 6:18, Matthew 6:5-8, 11:28-30

❸ The right heart is more important than the right words.

Psalm 6:8, Romans 8:26-27, Jeremiah 29:13, Matthew 6:7

❹ It's knowing both who we are, and whose we are.

1 Samuel 2:30, Matthew 7:7-11, John 1:12, Romans 8:15, Galatians 4:5-6

“Our worst sin may be prayerlessness, because of what it says about who we think is really in charge.”

Food for Thought
For the week of March 21, 2010
(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. As we heard this weekend, one of the things that can keep us from praying is the idea that our prayers need to be polished and articulate. Read 1 Kings 18:16-39. How does Elijah's prayer compare to the prayers of the prophets of Baal? What, if anything, does it show us about the kind of prayer God hears?

2. Nehemiah was a man whose prayer life went far beyond just asking God for what he wanted. Read Nehemiah 1:1-10 and jot down anything you find that gives you insight into Nehemiah's relationship and communication with God – and how it might impact or help you grow in your own prayer life.

3. The past two weekends we've heard about the purpose and effectiveness of persistent prayer. In what ways does the story of the death of David's son in 2 Samuel 12:15-23 illustrate the principle of persistence?

What surprises you about David's behavior?

How might someone misunderstand the main point of this passage?

4. Chris gave us four keys to talking with Dad. What additional motivation or helpful instruction do the following verses give us about prayer?

Philippians 4:6-7

Romans 8:26-27

Psalm 145:18-19

Matthew 6:7-8

How could you incorporate the teaching of these passages into your prayer life?

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