



Prayer: You Want Me To Do What? | October 19, 2016

Discussion Guide

The Scoop

Many times we pray something but what it requires of us is beyond our comfort zone so we continue living just short of life to its fullest extent...just short of everything God has in store for us.

Key Verse

James 5:16 (MSG)

The prayer of a person living right with God is something powerful to be reckoned with.

Discussion

Prayer is like marriage: communication needs to be regular, it is designed for good times and bad times, and it is designed to stretch you and grow you beyond where you currently are. Even if you are not married, you can apply some ideas and principles for success. For example: in marriage and in prayer, consider the mindset, “Don’t ask for easy; ask for worth it!”

1. What are some examples in your life apart from your faith journey when you were challenged beyond your current ability, comfort zone, or previous experiences?
2. What things have been difficult, felt unnatural, and/or came with a steep learning curve that you are better for having done them or experienced them?

The worship song *Oceans* by Hillsong United is a very challenging. As with all worship songs, we like to sing them for their beauty and our connection to God, but often when we walk away they were just verses and choruses. For a moment consider the following selection of lyrics from *Oceans*:

“You call me out upon the waters...The great unknown where feet may fail.”

“Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders. Let me walk upon the waters. Wherever You would call me...Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander.”

3. What might it look like in your life to ask God to lead you to places you have not yet been spiritually, occupationally, relationally, etc.?

James tells us that when we pray earnestly for God to grow us, shape us, and give us a more abundant life, it is “something powerful to be reckoned with.” What if the secret to a “more and better life than [you] ever dreamed of” is being willing to not only ask for it, but being willing to go, do, and grow as a result of God giving you what you asked for? (John 10:10)

4. What have you or would you pray for that would require you to grow, do something different, or even develop better or new skills?

What’s Next?

If you are willing to ask God for things, be willing to do your part...even when it seems scary and impossible. As a result of this prayer series, we hope that you would pray more often, pray more expectantly, pray with others, and pray audaciously. As you begin to engage your prayer life in new ways consider this affirmation from *Oceans*:

Your grace abounds in deepest waters. Your sovereign hand will be my guide.

Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me, You’ve never failed, and You won’t start now!