EFFECTIVE PRAYER
Marion Oaks – 1-15-2020 & 1-29-2020

Introduction

Effective prayer is about _____, not just

_____!

Something is effective if it does what it was designed to do.

- The primary goal of prayer is not having our requests granted.

- The primary goal of prayer is to spend time in

   _____ with our Father.

Three types of prayers Jesus said are totally ineffective.

- Prayers that aren't prayed (Matthew 6:5)

- Prayers meant to impress _____

   (Matthew 6:5)

- Prayers meant to impress or manipulate

   _____ (Matthew 6:7)

Text: Matthew 7:7-11

1. **Prayer is effective when we come to God as our**

   _____. (7:11)

   Matthew 6:1, 6, 8, 9, 14, 15

   A. Seeking to grow in our _____ with Him.

      Proverbs 8:17; Jeremiah 29:13; Deuteronomy
      4:29; Matthew 7:7

   B. Seeking _____ agenda, not just

      _____.

      Matthew 6:33; 1 John 5:14-15

      - His _____ (Matthew 6:9)

- His _____ (Matthew 6:10)

- His _____ (Matthew 6:10)

- Our _____ needs (Matthew 6:11)

- Our _____ needs (Matthew 6:12-13)

2. **Prayer is effective when we come to God _____. (7:7-9)**

   A. "_____ _____" asking, seeking, and knocking

   - We must _____ in prayer. (Luke 18:1-8)

   - Don't be _____.

   B. God _____ answers genuine prayer.

3. **Prayer is effective when we _____ God to give us what is _____ in His timing. (7:10-11)**

   Luke 11:11-12

   A. God gives _____ gifts.

      James 1:16-17

   B. God will not play _____ with our prayers.

   C. God always answers our prayers, but in His way, with perfect _____ and _____.

1) Sometimes a good Father must say "_____." (Acts 12)

2) Sometimes a good Father must say "_____ _____." (Isaiah 55:8-9)

3) Sometimes a good Father must say "There's something _____ must do _____."

4. **Prayer is effective when we are in _____ relationship with God and _____.**

   "Prayer Busters"

   A. _____ (James 4:2)

   B. _____ sin (Isaiah 59:2)

   C. Unresolved relational _____ (Matthew 5:23-24)

   D. _____ (James 4:3)

   E. Inadequate _____ (James 1:5-8)

Conclusion

Effective prayer is about _____, not just _____!

- Are we in right relationship with _____?

- Are we coming to Him to grow in our _____ with Him and to align with His _____?

- Are we willing to _____ Him when His answer is not what we want it to be?