

The Five Pillars of Effective Prayer Pt. 2

The Five Pillars of Effective Prayer, Part 2

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

1. SERMON RECAP

Pastor Mirek continued his series on the five pillars of effective prayer by focusing on the second pillar: knowing the power of God. He walked the congregation through miracle after miracle in Scripture, from the flood of Noah to the parting of the Red Sea to Elijah's chariot of fire, building the case that God's power is unlimited and available to every believer today. He challenged the group to let these accounts saturate their thinking so deeply that prayer becomes an act of confident expectation rather than hopeful wishing.

2. KEY SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 32:17

"Ah, Lord God! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm. There is nothing too hard for You."

3. ICE BREAKER

What is the most surprising or unlikely thing you have ever witnessed work out in your favor, something that still makes you shake your head when you think about it?

4. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Pastor Mirek emphasized that knowing God's person is the foundation from which prayer is launched, and that knowing His power is the second pillar that builds on that foundation. Why do you think it matters to understand both who God is and what He is capable of, rather than focusing on just one or the other? How does weakness in either area affect the way a person actually prays?
2. Pastor Mirek pointed out that every major people group on earth carries some version of the flood story in its history, and he described the flood not simply as rain but as a restructuring of the entire created order. What does the sheer scale of that event say to you about the kind of power God is willing to exercise on behalf of His purposes? Does that scale feel encouraging or overwhelming to you personally, and why?

3. He described the covenant God made with Abraham in Genesis 15, where God Himself walked through the broken animal pieces as a visible, fiery confirmation of His promise. Abraham had already heard God's voice, yet God went further and made the covenant visible. What does that tell us about how God handles our moments of wavering faith or slow belief? Can you think of a time when God gave you something beyond what you asked for in order to settle your trust in Him?

4. Pastor Mirek shared several personal stories, including a decade-long legal battle, forty bank rejections, and a single offering that produced a quarter of a million dollars, as examples of miracle following miracle through sustained prayer. He said that delay is not the issue and that the issue is whether we will keep our faith in what God has said. Where in your own life are you most tempted to park the bus because of delay? What has held you there, and what would it look like to keep praying with expectation instead?

5. He recounted Jerry Savelle's story of an angel who posed as a mechanic at an abandoned gas station, fixing the car, filling the tank, and refusing payment before disappearing entirely. Pastor Mirek used this story to illustrate that God has resources and methods far outside human categories. How does that kind of story affect your personal ceiling of what you believe God can do in a practical, everyday situation? Is there a ceiling you need to raise?

6. Pastor Mirek closed by saying that the reason Scripture contains miracle after miracle after miracle is so that believers would live in a miracle mindset, one of normal expectation rather than occasional surprise. What would it look like for your small group to cultivate that kind of culture together? What habits, conversations, or practices might need to change to get there?

5. APPLICATION CHALLENGE

Before the group meets again, each member should identify one specific situation in their life where they have quietly accepted a natural outcome as final, whether related to health, finances, a relationship, or an opportunity, and spend at least ten minutes on three separate days this week praying over that situation out loud, speaking to it directly and asking God to intervene with His power. Members are encouraged to write down what they prayed and bring those notes to share at the next meeting.

6. PRAYER POINTS

- Pray that every member of the group would develop a deeply rooted confidence in the unlimited power of God, specifically in the areas where doubt has taken hold, so that their prayers become bold and persistent rather than tentative.
 - Pray for anyone in the group who is in the middle of a prolonged waiting season, whether in health, finances, family, or calling, that they would receive fresh strength to continue in faith and not abandon their prayers before the answer arrives.
 - Pray that the group as a whole would become a community known for expecting and celebrating the miraculous work of God, and that testimonies of answered prayer would multiply and build faith for one another week by week.
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7. MEMORY VERSE

Ephesians 1:19

"And what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power."