

God Hears Your Prayers

Small Group Discussion Guide

"God Hears Your Prayers" -- Pastor Mirek Hufton

1. SERMON RECAP

Pastor Mirek Hufton walked the congregation through the remarkable story of Cornelius in Acts 10, showing how this unsaved Roman centurion's consistent prayers and generous lifestyle literally rose as a memorial before the throne of God in heaven. He challenged the group to understand that prayer is never disconnected from the way a person lives, and that God hears every sincere prayer that ascends to His throne. He reminded the congregation that answered prayer may take time to arrive, but standing firm in faith and lining up one's life with God's character accelerates the breakthrough.

2. KEY SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 4:16

"Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need."

3. ICE BREAKER

What is the most memorable or unexpected answer to prayer you have ever witnessed or heard about, even if it was someone else's story?

4. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Question 1

Pastor Mirek described God's throne as the highest point of authority in the entire universe, and he pointed out that every prayer a believer prays travels all the way to that throne. How does thinking about prayer as a direct line to the throne of God rather than simply a quiet habit change the way you approach it?

Question 2

Cornelius was an unsaved man, yet his prayers and his generosity were described by an angel as a memorial before God. Pastor Mirek used this to show that a sincere, seeking heart can move heaven even before a person fully knows Jesus. What does this tell us about the nature of God's responsiveness, and how might it affect the way we pray for unsaved family members or friends?

Question 3

Pastor Mirek made the point that prayer and lifestyle are inseparably connected, saying that strong living comes from strong praying, and feeble living comes from feeble praying. Do you agree or disagree with that connection? Where have you seen it proven true or challenged in your own experience?

Question 4

He referenced Isaiah 58:6-9, which ties a lifestyle of helping the poor and the oppressed directly to God's promise to answer when we call. Why do you think God places such strong emphasis on how we treat hurting people as part of our prayer life? What gets in the way of making that connection in everyday life?

Question 5

Pastor Mirek noted that Daniel was told by the angel that the moment he began to pray, the answer was sent, yet it took twenty-four days to arrive because of spiritual resistance. How do you personally handle the gap between praying and seeing the answer, and what practical things help you stand your ground during that waiting period?

Question 6

He closed by urging the congregation to develop prayer as a character quality, not just an occasional activity, saying that the more a believer lines up their heart and life with God's character, the more quickly the downloads and breakthroughs will come. What is one honest obstacle in your current life that makes sustained, consistent prayer difficult, and what would it look like to remove or reduce that obstacle?

5. APPLICATION CHALLENGE

This week, choose one person in your life who is unsaved or hurting and commit to praying specifically for that person every day for seven days. Alongside that prayer, identify one practical act of generosity or kindness you can do for them or for someone in genuine need before the week is over. Keep a brief note each day of what you prayed and what you did, and bring that reflection back to share with the group next week.

6. PRAYER POINTS

- Pray that each group member would develop a bold and consistent prayer life that reflects the confidence Hebrews 4:16 describes, coming to the throne of grace without hesitation or shame.
- Pray for the unsaved and hurting people connected to each person in the group, asking God to respond to

the prayers being lifted on their behalf just as He responded to the prayers of Cornelius by sending a breakthrough that would reach an entire household.

- Pray that the group as a whole would find greater alignment between the way they live day to day and the prayers they bring before God, so that their lifestyle and their prayer life would work together rather than against each other.

7. MEMORY VERSE

Acts 10:4b

"Your prayers and your alms have come up for a memorial before God."

Leader Note: Encourage group members to be honest rather than polished in their answers. The goal of tonight's discussion is not theological perfection but genuine reflection on how prayer actually functions in each person's real life. Pastor Mirek's message was pastoral and personal, and the conversation should feel the same way.