

Pray First 1-21-24 – Pastor Rob

1. Who is one of your best friends?
2. What does your communication look like with this friend?
3. Who have you learned from in your life? Would you consider them a mentor?
4. Do you have anyone right now that you are learning from? (Authors, Teachers, Pastors, Leaders, Etc.)
5. Why are experts so important in each area of our lives?
6. What does your prayer life currently look like?
7. What area of your prayer life do you want to change?
8. James, the brother of Jesus, was known for spending time on his knees in prayer. Pastor Rob mentioned that his nickname was Camel Knees because his knees were so calloused. What would others say about your faith? What would you want them to say?

James 5:13-16 - Are any of you suffering hardships? You should pray. Are any of you happy? You should sing praises. ¹⁴ Are any of you sick? You should call for the elders of the church to come and pray over you, anointing you with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ Such a prayer offered in faith will heal the sick, and the Lord will make you well. And if you have committed any sins, you will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.

9. Do you naturally pray first when you face hardships and troubles in life?
10. Pastor Rob said that the answer to a prayer when we are in trouble is not always the ending of the trouble. Why do you think that is?
11. In 2 Corinthians 12:7-10 the Apostle Paul said that he prayed for God to take away his “Thorn in the Flesh”, but God did not. What reason did Paul give for this?
12. James also tells us that we should also pray and sing songs of praise when we are happy. Does prayer, praise and thankfulness to God come naturally for you when things are going well?
13. What is one way that you could practice prayer when things are going well?
14. Lastly James says that when we are sick we should pray and ask others to pray for us.
15. Do you find that asking others to pray for you is easy or difficult?
16. Paul says that if we have any sins, we will be forgiven. What does forgiveness have to do with prayer?
17. In verse 16 we are called to confess our sins to one another. What are your thoughts about that?
18. Why do you think that we are told to confess our sins to each other?
19. In verse 16 the Apostle Paul connects confession to healing. What role do you think confess has in healing?
20. Do you think of yourself as righteous?

Romans 5:1 - Therefore, since we have been made righteous through his faithfulness, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

21. What does Romans 5:1 say about our righteousness.
22. Do your prayers reflect an expectation that God will answer them?
23. What do you really want that you haven't yet asked God for? What's keeping you from asking?