**Sermon: Praying Scripture**

**August 25, 2019 Discussion Notes**

Everyone is encouraged to bring a Bible (Phone apps are fine. Study Bibles are better)

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**Questions:**

1. Have you ever experienced a dramatic answer to prayer? What happened? Share with your group.
2. How strong is your prayer life? Does prayer come naturally to you or do you find that it takes a lot of effort?
3. What do you remember about each of the main points of the sermon? (seen above). What in the sermon challenged you? Do you have any questions to discuss?
4. Did anything else stand out to you about the believers’ prayer in Acts 4:24-31?
5. Read 2 Samuel 7:12-13, 16. This is a promise that God made to David
   1. How did David’s son, Solomon, use this promise as a springboard for prayer at the dedication of the temple? (see 2 Chronicles 6:16-20).
   2. What was the result of Solomon’s prayer? (see 2 Chronicles 7:1-3).
   3. How do the words (from the angel Gabriel to Mary) in Luke 1:32-33 relate to God’s promise to David?
6. Read Deuteronomy 28:58-65
   1. In what way(s) did these promises come true for the Israelites?
   2. Now read Deuteronomy 30:1-5. If you were an Israelite exile and you read this passage, how do you think you would respond?
   3. Now read Nehemiah 1:1-11. Which passage of Scripture does Nehemiah refer to in v. 8? Which passage of Scripture does he refer to in v. 9?
   4. In what ways does Nehemiah turn his understanding of these Scriptures into prayer? What are the key points of his prayer?
   5. What specific prayer request does Nehemiah bring before the Lord at the end of his prayer? (see v. 11).
   6. What was the result of Nehemiah’s prayer? (see Nehemiah 2:4-8 and Nehemiah 6:15)
7. Read Jeremiah 29:4-14.
   1. This passage contains a well-known verse about God’s good plans for His people. What is the original context of these words? Do you think the Israelites received this message joyfully?
   2. Now read Daniel 9:1-3. What did Daniel realize and how did he respond?
   3. Read the first part of Daniel’s prayer in verses 4-7. What stands out to you about this prayer?
   4. What was required for the promise in Jeremiah 29 to be fulfilled? (see Jeremiah 29:12). In what way does Daniel step up to do his part in fulfilling this requirement?
   5. What can we learn from Daniel about how to effectively use Scripture to pray?
   6. What was the result of Daniel’s prayer? (see Daniel 1:20-25 and 2 Chronicles 36:21-23)
8. Looking back over these passages, how pleased does God seem to be when His people pray the Scriptures?
9. What plans can you make to start praying the Scriptures more in your own life?
10. Pray for each other’s needs. Try to intentionally use Scripture as you pray together.