

Genesis 32 – Elements of Effective Prayer 2

July 19, 2020 Discussion Notes

Everyone is encouraged to bring a Bible

(Phone apps are good for reading together in the same translation. Study Bibles give help with interpretation.)



ELEMENTS OF EFFECTIVE PRAYER 2

- BE WILLING TO DO YOUR PART
- COME TO THE END OF YOURSELF
- WRESTLE IT OUT WITH GOD
- PREPARE TO BE TRANSFORMED



Questions:

1. Think about an accomplishment or experience in your life that required a lot of perseverance. Why was perseverance needed? How did things turn out?
2. Why do you think perseverance is important in prayer?
3. What do you remember about the sermon (review the main points above)? Did anything impact or challenge you? Do you have any questions?
4. Read James 1:2-4
 - a) According to this passage, why is perseverance important?
 - b) What do you think it means to “let perseverance finish its work”?
 - c) What produces perseverance in our lives?
 - d) What are we supposed to consider “pure joy”? Why?
 - e) Reflect on the trials in your own life right now. Following the reasoning in this passage of Scripture, are you able to perceive the silver lining and have joy in the midst of the struggle? Pause and ask God for help in this.
5. Read Hebrews 12:1-7
 - a) What is the great cloud of witnesses that we are surrounded by? (refer to Hebrews 11)
 - b) In what way do these people surround us? What are they saying to us?
 - c) Do you find that perseverance is easier when you have people around you who cheer you on?
 - d) Do you have people like that in your life? (if you say no, read verse 1 again)
 - e) What are some of the things that hinder us from running the race well? Share with each other some of the things that tend to trip you up.
 - f) According to this passage, what will help us persevere as we run our spiritual race?
6. Read Daniel 10:1-14 (This passage seems to peel back the curtain and give us a glimpse of the battles between high ranking angelic and demonic beings)
 - a) What did Daniel give up during this season of prayer? Why do you think he did this?
 - b) How long did Daniel pray before an answer arrived?
 - c) When had God first sent an answer?
 - d) Why was there a delay?
 - e) How might this story encourage you in your own prayer life?
 - f) What can you learn from Daniel about effective prayer?
7. Read Colossians 4:12
 - a) What was this man, Epaphras, doing for the Colossian Christians?
 - b) What do you think it looks like to be “always wrestling in prayer” for someone?
 - c) What was Epaphras hoping would happen as a result of his prayers?
 - d) Do you have anyone in your life who prays for you like this?
 - e) Do you pray for anyone else in this way? If not, who could you adopt for this next week as someone you wrestle in pray for?
8. Spend some time praying for our world. And pray for any specific needs in your group.