

PRAYER PART 2
“THE OBEDIENT LIFE”

SPEAKER: SUNDAY: PASTOR SHANE CARROLL
SATURDAY: PASTOR JAKEEM MORGAN
SCRIPTURE: MARK 1, EPHESIANS 6, MATTHEW 16
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INTRODUCTION

- Last Week we talked about fasting and how it better positions us to follow Jesus.
- Ephesians 6 is an invitation to participate in the impossible.
- Paul is going to tell us that the vehicle and action begins with prayer.

I. THE QUIET PLACE

- Mark 1:35-39, “...the next morning, Jesus got up and went out to an isolated place to pray...”
- Jesus’ regular solitude with the Father reminded Him of who He was and renewed His purpose.
- The invitation to pray is the invitation to step into the fullness of who we were created to be.

II. INVADING THE IMPOSSIBLE

- Prayer is the intentional, concentrated, and regular effort to create space for God.
- Paul is going to tell us that prayer is “Invading the Impossible” – Jack Hayford
- Ephesians 6:12,18, ¹²For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world...¹⁸ Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion...”
- Jesus shows us there is more to this life than just the material.

III. BEING A FOLLOWER MEANS BEING A LISTENER

- Most of us live lives that are over busy, over filled and too loud. So much outer noise it's hard to hear God.
- 1 Kings 19:12, “...the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire there was the sound of a gentle whisper.”
- Fasting and Prayer brings clarity in the middle of chaos.
- Saying yes to God is going to require us to say no to some other things.
- God is constantly speaking but we rarely hear Him.

IV. TIME AND SPACE

- Without solitude it is impossible to be a follower of Jesus and an obedient listener.
- Matthew 6:6, “But when you pray, go away by yourself...and pray to your Father in private...”
- Like worship, solitude will arrange a confrontation with our inner issues.
- We have to be intentional to regularly create space to be alone, block the noise and be present with reality.

V. FOLLOWING IS HARD WORK

- Following Jesus never was and never will be easy.
- Matthew 10:23, “When you are persecuted in one town, flee to the next...”
- John 17:15 - Don’t take them out of the world...but keep them safe!

CLOSE

- Matthew 16:24-26, Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me...”
- Matthew 11:28-29, Then Jesus said, “Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest...”