

PRAY IT FORWARD PART 2

“THE POSTURE OF PRAYER”

SCRIPTURE: EXODUS 3, LUKE 18:9-14

SPEAKER: SUNDAY PASTOR SHANE CARROLL

SATURDAY EXEC. PASTOR JOEL SANCHEZ

JANUARY 11-12, 2025

INTRODUCTION

- Last week we saw that Jesus always displayed a posture of prayer.
- Exodus 3:4-5, “When the LORD saw Moses coming...God called to him...“Moses! Moses!”...⁵“Do not come any closer,” the LORD warned. “Take off your sandals, for you are standing on holy ground.”
- Prayer is the place we experience God’s presence most often and His presence kills pride, brings humility and demands authenticity.
- What if prayer is less about getting it right and more about being real?

I. HONESTY OVER PERFORMANCE

- Luke 18:9-14, “...¹¹The Pharisee...‘I thank you, God, that I am not like other people—cheaters, sinners, adulterers...’ ¹³“But the tax collector...‘O God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner.’...those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”
- Jesus tells us often that what’s taking place externally is a picture of what is taking place internally.
- When we are more concerned with honesty than performance, we can experience His presence more significantly.

II. GRACE IN HUMILITY

- Matthew 6:5-6, “...⁶ But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you.”
- Real prayer requires vulnerability with God.
- Vulnerability is the courage to trust God with the real you.

III. PRAYER AS SURRENDER

- Luke 22:39, “...Jesus left the upstairs room and went as usual to the Mount of Olives.”
- This was a habit for Jesus, not just something He did in crisis!
- Too many of us don’t cultivate holy ground inside of us.
- Luke 22:40-42, “...⁴² “Father, if You are willing, please take this cup of suffering away from Me. Yet I want Your will to be done, not Mine.”
- God invites us to bring our doubts, fears, and grief to Him.
- Long before He is looking for perfection, God is looking for surrender.

CLOSE

- Psalm 51:10-12, “Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me...And sustain me with a willing spirit.”