

Principles of Prayer

Lesson 2 “Communing with God”

I. Introduction - We began a series called “Principles of Prayer” last week because we are kicking off the month of January with 21 days of prayer and fasting.

A. Why?

1. Jesus said my house will be called a house of prayer - **Mark 11:17**.

Throughout the series I’m going to teach about different aspects about prayer we need to understand to have a successful prayer life. Last week we talked about the purpose of prayer and fasting and I’ve got something really cool I’m going to teach about prayer and fasting, but tonight I’m going to focus on the main purpose of prayer.

2. The main purpose of prayer is communing with God. Sometimes we make prayer about requesting things from God and that’s not wrong, it’s just not the main point. The main point is communing or fellowship with God. This must be our foundation before we talk about anything else.

II. Communing with God

A. **2 Corinthians 13:14** *The communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

1. **koinōnía**, koy-nohn-ee'-ah; from **G2844**; partnership, i.e. (literally) participation, or (social) intercourse, or **fellowship**.

2. **Acts 2:42-46** the word for fellowship is **koinōnía**. This is talking about how disciples hung out together, out meals together, and spent time together laughing, joking, and enjoying each other’s company. This is how God wants to meet with each of us.

3. Kalley Heiligenthal example: God began to download His heart and love about the people in Brazil and she began to ask Him what He wanted her to do about it. “Kalley I don’t want you to do anything, I just wanted a friend to tell.”

4. Do we have this kind of relationship with God. Are we really a friend of God that He confides in. **Psalms 103:7** *Israel knew His acts, Moses knew His ways.*

B. **John 15 - Friendship with God**

1. **John 15:2** Jesus upholds the branches that aren’t bearing fruit. He’s not getting rid of those that don’t bear fruit. He holds them up in His light so they can get proper nutrients. When we understand the nature of God, we will all want a friend like Jesus.

2. **John 15:3-5** When we understand intimacy with God we learn we don’t have to produce anything. The seed of God’s word produces the fruit, the same the

seed of a man produces the fruit in the mother's womb. All she has to do is receive out of intimacy.

3. **John 15:7-8** The idea behind abiding with God and having His words in us is we are able to receive His heart.

4. **John 15:15-16** The difference between a servant and a friend is a servant will not know what the master is doing, but a friend will know the why. ex: Difference between the landscaper and Segun.

C. Example of this - God's word to me about Reformation. It's a genius revelation right? It wasn't mine. God trusted me with that word out of our friendship and my responsibility is to share it with you guys and steward it as a pastor.

1. How do I get to be God's friend? It's out of a love relationship. Jesus said you are my friend if you do what I say. This isn't a legalistic thing, it's a value proposition or positioning of the heart that I value you above all else. As we do, He will show us things in scripture and speak things to our heart as a friend.

III. Conclusion - In prayer time, we will pray for one another and pray over anything God showed you while I ministered or anything he has been speaking to you. God often shows us things so we will then ask of Him to bring it to pass. You guys can also pray for each other to have wisdom and to hear God's voice.

A. Prayer Time

B. Offering - **Luke 6:38**