

# GOD QUESTING

## PART 3:

### The Return To The King

#### Introduction – The Rhythm Of Relationship

Ephesians 6:17-18

KEY CONCEPT: God values \_\_\_\_\_ over \_\_\_\_\_.

Matthew 9:37-38

#### Lessons From The Life Of Jesus

CASE STUDY #1: Prayer as preparation. (Mark 1:35-39)

Prayer a) Recalibrates our \_\_\_\_\_.  
b) Renews our \_\_\_\_\_ about our \_\_\_\_\_.  
c) Recharges our \_\_\_\_\_.

CASE STUDY #2: Prayer as renewal. (Luke 5:15-16)

CASE STUDY #3: Prayer as Power. (Matt 26:40-41)

Luke 22:31-32; John 11:41-43; Luke 11:1-13

#### Three Suggestions For Times of Prayer

1. Start prayer with \_\_\_\_\_ study and meditation.  
Psalm 5:1; 19:14

2. Reach out for more of \_\_\_\_\_, not just for stuff we want from God.

Psalm 42

3. Pray for God's \_\_\_\_\_.  
John 14:13-14; James 4:2-3; 1 John 5:14

#### Conclusion – Thirst Quenching With Living Water

Psalms 42:1; John 4:10; 7:38-39

MY NEXT STEP IN MY PRAYER LIFE WILL BE...

- Praying through a passage of Scripture this week.
- Using the "Lord's Prayer" as a pattern for my own prayers this week.
- Using "ACTS" (Adoration; Confession; Thanksgiving; Supplication) as a pattern for my prayer this week.
- Praying out loud.
- Committing to a rhythm of daily prayer at the same time and place.
- Praying with a theo-centric focus – asking for God's glory rather than mine.
- Getting audio versions of another series on prayer – Y2 Pray – and actively working through the content.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

#### HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS...

##### WARMING UP...

- If you're a *LORD OF THE RINGS* fan (and hey, who isn't?!), talk about the parallels between prayer and a wizard's staff as sources of power. How are they similar? How are they very different?
- After briefly reviewing this week's message, share one thing that most challenged, puzzled, or encouraged you.
- Learn from each other – Describe your current style or techniques for your prayer life. How long and how often do you pray? What works or doesn't work for you? What roadblocks or breakthroughs have you encountered?
- How would you respond to someone who says there is no need to pray since God already knows everything and will do what his plan says anyway?

##### LOOK TO THE BOOK...

- Read Jesus' teaching on prayer in **Luke 11:1-13**. a) Why do you think the disciples asked Jesus to teach them this one spiritual activity? b) Do you think the "Lord's Prayer" is to be recited once a day or many times over and over or simply used as a pattern for more conversational prayer with God? (See **Matthew 6:7-8; 26:40-41**.) c) What lessons about prayer can we take out of Jesus' story in **verses 5-8**? d) What lessons about prayer can we find in Jesus' teaching in **verses 9-13**?
- Read **Mark 11:22-24**. How would you respond to the many Christians who use verses like these to teach that God wants us to have whatever we desire as long as we're willing to claim it by faith? (Use verses from this sermon to offer a balancing point.)
- The **Psalms** are written prayers. Have each member in your group randomly pick one fairly short **Psalm** and read it through to themselves. Then have each person share what lessons about honest dialogue with God they can find in the **Psalm** they read.

##### SO WHAT?...

- What "next step" have you identified (see "Conclusion" above) for you to take in your journey toward increasing the quality of your conversations with God? Pray for each other regarding this.
- How have you done in the area of Scripture study and meditation this past week?

##### HOMEWORK...

- Begin your daily prayer time by meditating on **John 7:37-38** and praying in response to these verses (before moving on to pray about other things). Try this each day for the whole week.

**Bruxy Cavey @ THE MEETING HOUSE – Sunday, January 18 / 25, 2004**