

Prayer & Providence

Introduction:

- A. examples of faith in prayer and providence
 - 1. mother's prayer for sick child
 - 2. preacher's prayer for wisdom
 - B. How does the providence of God relate to prayer?
 - I. The practice of prayer is based on the providence of God.
 - A. God does hear His children's prayers. - 1 Peter 3:12
 - B. Therefore, prayer does avail. - James 5:13-18
 - II. Acceptable prayer is pleading the promises of God.
 - A. We must ask according to His will. - 1 John 5:14-15
 - B. The only way we can know His will is through His Word. - Deuteronomy 29:29
 - C. We should pray for:
 - 1. material needs - Matthew 6:11; James 4:3
 - 2. spiritual needs - Matthew 6:12-13
 - 3. whatever troubles us - Philippians 4:6-7
 - 4. the needs of others - 1 Timothy 2:1
 - D. We must not pray for God to work a miracle. - 1 Corinthians 13:10
 - E. When we are not sure what God's will is, we should pray for what seems right and submit to His will. - Hebrews 5:7; Matthew 26:36-45; Luke 22:43-44
 - F. Trust Him to give what is best for us spiritually. - Matthew 7:7-11
 - III. Prayer does not eliminate personal responsibility.
 - A. material needs - 2 Thessalonians 3:10
 - B. spiritual needs - Acts 8:22
 - IV. Our prayer life is a critical measure of our faith. - Luke 18:1-8
- ### Conclusion:
- A. Prayer is the refuge of the Christian. - 1 Peter 5:6-7
 - B. Therefore, pray. - 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18