

Introduction:

1. When has someone nagged you so much for something that you finally said "yes" just to get them off your back?
2. What is the biggest distraction for you when you are trying to pray? And what time of day and place are the best environment for you to pray in?

Understanding:

3. God is Majestic and All-Powerful, **and** personally interested in the details of your life. Explain how these both are true.
4. We are UTTERLY DEPENDENT on HIM to PROVIDE for us, PURIFY us, and PROTECT us. What are some specific ways that you are too independent in your life? How does today's teaching encourage you to change in those areas?
5. We ask the Lord "Give us each day our daily bread". We can't make it on our own – we need HELP. But: How can this be made true for you even during a time of plenty?
6. Read Psalm 62:8 Explain how this is different from just saying "try harder" when someone is having difficulty praying.
7. Read Isaiah 55:6 and Deuteronomy 4:29. What are the action words here? How can this attitude change you from being too passive in prayer? What specific area does it encourage you to pray more boldly in?
8. Read Psalm 131 and see how this connects to prayer. What does it say about humility? What does it say about prayers that God has not answered yet? What is the picture of contentment here?
9. Ted cited scripture (Isaiah 59:2 and Matthew 5:23-24) about unconfessed sin or unforgiveness towards others as a hindrance to prayer. The Lord is quick to forgive if you need to repent in these areas!

Application:

10. Join Dave and Ted, and the rest of the leadership team, in praying BOLDLY for Jacksonville Chapel. Ask God to stretch us as His church in ways that are so BIG, so challenging, so BOLD, that only HE can do it. Join us in praying for the Special Needs ministry you heard about at the service – We are trusting God for the details, but pray for something so huge that everyone around us will know that GOD was involved – there was no way we could have done it on our own.
11. This week, let's get in the habit of praying as a church:
 - Practice the mindset for prayer we talked about: **Acknowledge** God as your Father and King, completely Holy – and **Admit** that you NEED him to provide, purify and protect you.
 - Set a regular time to pray every day – and be sensitive to pray immediately for whatever God places on your heart.
 - There's no ONE RIGHT time to pray, just find the time that works best for you, and stick with it. And don't worry about whether your time is long enough. Just doing it regularly is a great start!
 - Keep praying – don't give up. And be BOLD with your requests – Ask God to challenge you; to stretch us as a church, to accomplish things for Him that we could only do with His help.
12. Do you have a special burden for prayer? Serve on the Prayer Team and pray for others at the end of each service. Contact jlongo@jacksonvillechapel.org for information about joining the team!