

January 11-12, 2024

Title: Continuing Together in Prayer, Pt 2: “Pray the King’s Prayers for One Another” – Psalm 20

Big Idea: Pray the King’s prayers for one another because our God will powerfully answer us!

Read Psalm 20.

What in the message stood out to you?

What questions do you have?

1. Pray the King’s Prayers – Psalm 20:1-5.

One of the elements of the “Next Steps with God” section of Good Shepherd’s Continuing Together Covenant says: “I will strive toward daily prayer and personal study of God’s Word to know Him better, trust Him more, and obey Him more fully.” Have you committed to this? Why or why not?

Have you entered into the church covenant itself? Why or why not? If not, consider watching or listening to “The Sheep Shed” podcasts regarding it.

Read Psalm 20:1-5 again. This is a Royal Psalm, which means it is about King David and his people but has ultimate fulfillment in King Jesus and His people. In verse 1, the people ask God to answer the king’s prayers. How do you think it would benefit the people if God answered the king’s prayers?

The people refer to the Lord in Psalm 20:1 as the “God of Jacob.” Read Genesis 28:13-17. Why is this title for God an encouragement for prayer?

In Psalm 20:3, the people ask God to remember and regard the offerings and sacrifices of the king. What do offerings and sacrifices represent? Why is this so important when it comes to prayer?

In Psalm 20:4, the people ask God to fulfill the heart’s desire of the king. Why is it dangerous to ask God to fulfill our heart’s desire? Under what circumstances would it not be dangerous?

Read 1 John 5:14-15. Based on this passage, when is the only time we should be confident that the Lord will give us our heart’s desire?

2. God will powerfully answer our King’s prayers for us – Psalm 20:6

Read Psalm 20:6. The word “anointed” translates the Hebrew word “Messiah.” Jesus the ultimate Messiah, the One sent by God to save His people. When the Lord saves His Messiah, He saves us! What does this mean for how Jesus and His Father view our troubles in life? How does this encourage you?

Read John 11:41-42. What does this passage teach about the prayers of Jesus for us?

Read Hebrews 7:27 and 2 Corinthians 5:21. How does the sacrifice of Jesus affect our relationship with God? What does this mean for our prayers?

Read John 6:38. What does this verse reveal about the desires and plans of Jesus? How should this affect our prayers?

Read John 16:23-24. What does it mean to pray “in Jesus’ name?” Why should we be confident if we pray this way?

3. We trust in God alone to save and answer us – Psalm 20:7-9

Read Psalm 20:7-9. What do you think it means to trust in the name of the Lord our God instead of “chariots and horses?”

What are some of the things we are tempted to trust in today instead of God? What have been your own experience of doing this?

Read Psalm 20:8 again. In what ways does everything but God “collapse and fall” when it comes to providing security and contentment in life?

Why is God alone the only true source of security and contentment? How should this affect our prayers?

Romans 8:34 says that Jesus is currently at the right hand of His Father and is interceding for us. We know that He is praying God’s will for us. How can we know what He is praying so we can join Him in His prayers? How does the Bible help us with this?

“Next Steps” Takeaways:

Practice praying the King’s prayers for one another. Consider using specific examples of Jesus’ prayers to guide you:

- The Lord’s Prayer in Matthew 6 and Luke 11
- His prayer in the upper room in John 17
- His prayers in the Garden of Gethsemane in Matthew 26 and Mark 14
- His prayers from the cross in Matthew 27, Mark 15, and Luke 23.