

The Secret Place of Prayer

by Dwayne Roberts

Dwayne Roberts emphasizes the transformative power of persistent prayer in developing a deeper relationship with God and fulfilling one's destiny.

Duration: 49:16

Scripture: Psalm 27:4, Matthew 5:16, Matthew 6:5-6, Matthew 7:7, John 4:23-24, John 15:7

Topics: "Secret Place"

Description

In this sermon, the speaker shares a powerful story of a young person who overcame their nervousness and boldly proclaimed Jesus as the Son of Man on a college campus. This simple act of faith led to a remarkable chain of events, with thousands of people coming to faith in just a few days. The speaker emphasizes the importance of persistent prayer and spending time with God, highlighting that our prayers have the ability to move eternity. He also encourages the audience to prioritize their relationship with God over worldly distractions like TV and social media. The sermon concludes with a parable about a persistent neighbor, illustrating the importance of persevering in prayer.

Transcript

All right, let's pray. Heavenly Father, I thank you that the Word of God is alive and active. It means that your Word has life in it.

Your Word does something when we read it, and when we pray it, and when we speak on it. I'm asking for life to come this afternoon. Holy Spirit, take this message and allow it to take deep root in our lives, I pray.

Now, in the name of Jesus, Amen. Amen. I want to talk to you this afternoon on prayer.

It's a topic that is mentioned often. It's a topic that is talked in the nations right now. We see movement of prayer.

Jackson spoke on it last night. It is, there's a groundswell of prayer right now within the nation. I don't know, just for fun, who's on a college campus? Raise your hand.

Let me get a feel of, there's a groundswell on college campuses right now of prayer to the point that since January, there's been 24-7 prayer happening on campuses all across the nation. So we've had a prayer meeting since January on college campuses that has never stopped. So there's a groundswell of prayer that's taking place in the nation.

So prayer is spoken of. There's a movement taking place. And I remember as a missionary reading, and I had to preach a message.

And I was like, Oh my gosh, what do I preach on? And one of them I spoke on actually prayer. It wasn't a reality in my life when I spoke on it, but I found a verse that made sense. And I could spend 10 minutes talking about it.

So I talked on prayer. And it was Jesus. And I had mapped through a couple times when Jesus had set aside time to pray.

And it had great impact on me that the Son of Man walking with power on His life, the Son of God, the Son of Man in ministry prayed. That had a deep impact on me going, wow. So as a young, as a 20-something just getting into ministry, that had a profound effect on me.

But it didn't take really take root in my life. So with prayer being highlighted globally, you read it in the Word, you know, since you were brought into the family that you read your Bible and that you pray. Those are the two disciplines that we were all taught.

We know we're supposed to do. We all know it's supposed to be a priority of the life of a believer, especially if you want to go into ministry. You're always taught to pray.

But the reality is, is that really nobody does pray. If we were to take a kind of a general synopsis, general thing of the body of Christ today. Back about last time I heard the statistics, the average minister in the body of Christ prayed one to five minutes a day.

The average leader, worship leader, preacher prayed one to five minutes a day. It's in the scriptures boldly. There's tons of books on it.

There's a whole movement taking place. And yet we struggle to walk out a life of prayer. We struggle to get before God on a continual basis.

And Jesus, when he is addressing the Sermon on the Mount. And Sermon on the Mount is basic principles of the Christian life. Matthew 6, Matthew 5, 6 and 7. Jesus has just performed miracles and he's got the awe of the crowd.

And he enters into Sermon on the Mount. And Sermon on the Mount is just basic biblical Christianity 101. And he was laying out, this is how I want the average believer to live.

And at the heart of Sermon on the Mount, he brings up the topic of prayer. Matthew 6, verse 5, he says, And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men.

Assuredly, I say to you, they have the reward. So he says, those prayers in the worship service, those times in corporate prayer, where you're just kind of there and the ministry is taking place. He says, really, that is not going to have a tremendous amount of impact.

But he says, when you pray, go into your room. And when you have shut your door, pray to your father who is in the secret place. And when your father who sees you in secret, he will reward you openly.

Now, I don't think that you always need to take this completely literal, that I cannot go in and have a corporate prayer meeting. What Jesus is setting in place, he says, I want to know you in the place of prayer. He says, I want there to be this open dialogue between you and I, and it is in that place that I find you, that things are going to begin to shift and things are begin to move.

And in the place of prayer, he says, it is there that I will reward you openly. So as a young man, feel the call to ministry, feel the call to missions. And so I end up in Europe, was in Europe for close to 10 years with my wife, Jennifer.

And we were young, adventurous, feeling a call, going after it hard. Spent five years in Amsterdam, traveled to all these exotic places at 21. I led a team into Siberia, West Africa in the middle of a civil war, lost 15 pounds in one month because I was so stressed out.

Did lots of wild and crazy things. Moved to Budapest, Hungary. And it was there that the Lord began to do an interesting process in my life.

Because like you or many of you, I had dreamed of walking with power in my life. My dad had given me Smith Wigglesworth books when I was 18 years old. Ever read those? Oh, come on.

I had dreamed of those. You read about Charles Finney. Charles Finney gets up.

Very similar to this reality. Wish the same things were happening in my life that were happening in his. Charles Finney walked into a warehouse.

The owner of the warehouse gathered the people, his workers together. Charles Finney stands on a platform in a warehouse and doesn't say a word. And weeping begins to break forth.

They begin to cry out for mercy because conviction was in the room. I had read those books and I had dreamed of that. Moving to Budapest, we launched into ministry.

We're doing evangelism. It was creative. We were using a band.

It was hot. We'd go into clubs. We'd play in these seedy, dark smoke place where all the young people were.

We'd rent our own facility and then we'd preach the gospel. And there was truly minimal fruit. So I'm banging my head against the wall.

Banging my head against the wall going, where is the fruit? Where are the souls that are being saved? There's a great divide between what I read and what is a reality in my own life. There's a great divide between the Book of Acts and Dwayne Roberts Ministries International. You know what I'm saying? It wasn't happening.

And God, in His grace, took and humbled us and broke us and introduced me to an entirely different way to walk out the dreams and the mandate over my life. Because I knew that there was destiny on my life. Every one of you, you know there's a calling and a destiny.

It might be to business. It might be to a school teacher. It might be to a doctor.

It might be to the construction site. Who knows? But you have a destiny and a calling. And God, in His grace, began to shift my paradigm of how I was to walk it out.

And now I look back at a little bit of what He's done and I'm blown away by what the new paradigm that He's introduced to me. And now it makes so much sense. And He says, in the Sermon on the Mount, that if you will establish a life in prayer before me, I will reward you openly.

You know that I still carry the same desires that I carried when I was 20 years old. I am looking for the day that when I preach, the power of God breaks in a room and in that place conviction comes, the fear of God comes, sins are washed away, souls are won to the knowledge of Jesus. I look for those days of power in my life.

But I tell you, youthful zeal and great ideas will accomplish nothing. But if I develop a life before my God, in the place of loving Him, in the place of enjoying Him, in the place of looking upon Him and saying, Jesus, I love you. Send revival to Sacramento.

Jesus, you are beautiful. Oh, break in with power. Oh, we pray for high schools today.

The power of God would break into a high school and salvation would come to thousands of us. And I go back into worship. I am now convinced, absolutely convinced that I am completely useless if I do not talk to my God.

John 15, in our journey, coming back to Kansas City, the Lord highlighted. I'll tell you the stories real quick. We're in southern Hungary.

We're doing a music festival. It's our last thing and it's set up for us to move to go back to Atlanta, Georgia. And in the place of going back to Atlanta, we were going to be missions pastors because in cell group pastors, because I thought my paradigm of ministry was wrong.

I don't need to do para church. I need to plant churches. So no fruit.

This is where I thought I'd ended up in two days before the music festival starts. Email was just kind of becoming the hot thing. I get an email from this pastor.

He says, I'm moving the doors closed. You have to do something else. So that's like Thursday, Monday.

We have no place to go. No place. Our house is sold.

I mean, our apartment sold, our car sold everything. We have no place to go. And the next day, this gentleman walks up to me and shook hands.

And I said to him, Hey, I'm Dwayne. And he goes, the Lord woke me up two weeks ago in the middle of the night. And he gave me your name and he told me that I was going to meet you.

And I was like, Whoa, that just calmed me right down. I was like, Oh my goodness. God knows my name.

It was amazing. And in that process, coming along in that journey, he said, he gave us kind of some stuff and it was nothing really profound, to be honest with you. But he said, you are going to have fruit.

And an ache arose in my heart. It was in my late 20s. The idea of fruit coming from my labors was something I longed for.

It was an ache because I turned around and looked and I could not point with great confidence that there was much fruit from my labors. And in coming to Kansas City, John 15 has become opened up to me with so much grace on it. In Jesus, he's with his disciples.

And in the context of being with his disciples, this is the last message that he's going to preach to them. He's about to go to the cross and he says these words. He says, Listen, it is essential that you and I are abiding together.

He says, It is imperative. It is important that life is flowing from me to you and from you to I. And he says, And in that abiding relationship, verse seven, verse eight, he says, you are going to have fruit. And by this fruit, your father will be glorified.

And as I begin to pour my to study that and to begin to ponder that it is my prayer for all of us. It is my prayer for Northern California. It is my prayer for all of you in this room that there would be much fruit from your labors that at that day when all of us are going to stand before the Son of Man.

I was praying this prayer on the airplane yesterday that I would give you a crown that I would lay a crown at your feet that would have great fruit from it. I want my life to have great impact. And in Jesus saying, he says, You cannot live this life without abiding within me.

And in there, he says, For without me, you can do nothing. He says, You can do nothing without this life of prayer being established. And in a life of prayer being established, he makes a promise.

And he says, You will have much fruit. And in the place of having much fruit, our father will be glorified. And I want to endeavor this afternoon to put it into your paradigm.

That phrase without a life of prayer, you can do nothing without an abiding relationship with the Son of Man, you can do nothing because it is in the context of life flowing out of you that your fruit will break forth. So Dorky Dwayne ends up in Kansas City by the grace of God. It truly, I look back so often and I go, I have no idea how you got me here.

But I love it. And it's in that place that I have seen the biggest transformation that I've ever taken that I've ever seen. I love my job now.

I love being doing these one thing conferences. I love being able to interact with this generation. I see great things taking place in the house of prayer and what we're doing.

And I see fruit being established. And I go all of a sudden, as I begin to be before God, some days it's horrible. Some days it's amazing.

But as I've begun to establish that war fight to get that established in my life, I'm seeing God in his grace come around and actually begin to make true on those things that I feel are part of who I'm supposed to be and what I'm supposed to do before God. And Luke 11, Jesus, he's teaching on the topic of prayer because his disciples came to him and they said to him, they said, we've noticed John's disciples pray. And they come and they say, Jesus, would you teach us to pray like John's disciples to pray? And immediately, Jesus, he launches into to the what's that prayer called? The Lord's Prayer.

Thank you. Everything's oiling and working great. Don't worry.

Immediately, he launches into the Lord's Prayer. And in hitting the Lord's Prayer, he follows up by a parable that if you've ever heard many messages on prayer, you've heard it. And he says, have you ever heard the story of the persistent neighbor? This gentleman, he's got a guest that arrives and in the guest coming and arriving, he goes to a neighbor and he says, I need some food for I got a friend that has arrived.

I have nothing to feed him. He says, go away. My kids are in bed.

We're all tucked in. We're all cozy. And if I lift up the blankets, I get to chill and I can't handle it.

So go away. And the neighbor stays knocking on the door. And in that context, he says, OK, I'll get up and give you what you need.

And in that, Jesus says that ingredient of that persistent neighbor knocking, he says that ingredient is what I'm wanting in the context of you coming before me in prayer. He says, I want you to have a persistent coming before me. He says longevity.

I want you to have it coming before me. He says, if you will have that manner of persistently coming, of persistently coming, he says, I will give you what you want. Luke 11 has some astounding promises because in there, he says, ask what you will and I will give it to you, knock and I will open whatever you want.

I will give it to you. But I'm telling you that you need to come before me in a persistent manner. And he ends that portion of Scripture by saying, and if I was you, I would just consider asking for the Holy Spirit to come.

And in talking on prayer, Jesus, the main ingredient that he's brought up is he says, I want you to do it persistently, continually coming before me. There's promises over your state. There's promises over your schools.

There's promises over your cities and your towns. There's promises over your own individual lives. And Jesus, in the context of prayer, he says, I want you to fight for those promises.

I want you to lock in and go after those promises. And in doing that, I tell you, you will have fruit. But you must come after me in a persistent manner in being a life established in prayer.

And then he goes on again. He hits it in Luke 18 and he starts out by saying in Luke 18, I would that you would not lose hope in the place of prayer. Jesus, again, he hits the topic of prayer and he says and he highlights and he says, don't lose hope in the place of prayer.

Now, it's my fear that many of us have perhaps lost that understanding of the power of the human voice before God, because right now in the paradigm that I ran hard after was actually to get the American machine revved up and running well. And I kind of know how to do that. The idea of building a ministry, the idea of putting the right key components in it.

And in doing that, we can actually have success. There's tons of success in the American church today. But I'm putting before you that I'm just going to throw it out there, let you go away and think about it.

But how much of it has been established in prayer to the point that when certain a shaking would come to a certain ministry, will it maintain and stay strong? And Jesus, he lays before them. He says, do not lose

hope in the power of prayer. And often I go to Isaiah 64, where Isaiah, he's praying.

And he said, there's no God like you. No, I is heard. No, I have seen a God like you.

And then Isaiah makes this mind blowing statement. And he said, there's no God that acts on behalf of those who wait on him. And the idea of a dork like myself standing before God going, God, would you move in my city? Would you send revival? I'm asking for the Baptist and Episcopal church, the Pentecostal and the non-denominational churches in my city.

Abba, revive them with your spirit. Do you want to know the most amazing thing? Genesis, one God, you know, the creator, he's searching and he comes upon me and he goes, Aha, I found one. And he stops and listens to me.

And he goes, I am going to act on behalf of that one. Isaiah 64, there's no God who acts on behalf of those who wait on him. In Jesus, he says, do not underestimate the power of your voice in the place of worship and prayer.

He says, don't lose hope. The creator is waiting to partner with you in advancing the kingdom in your city. Do not lose hope in the place of you lifting your voice before the throne room.

Because it's in that place that he will come to a group of college students on a campus who are posturing their heart before him in the place of prayer. And he will come upon them and he'll go, Aha, I got a group. And in that place, he will send his spirit and we will see revival break forward.

We will see souls won to the knowledge of Jesus. But in that place, he says, I do not want you to lose hope. But he says, I want you to grow in your understanding of what it is, a human voice before me in prayer.

And he goes in. And in that same context, he says, I want to tell you another story about a persistent widow. And she would come before this judge and the judge would say, move on.

I'm done with you. The next day she would come before and the judge would say, you know what? Move on. I'm done.

No, I've decided. Get out of here. And finally, the judge says, listen, because you're of your persistence, you have it.

Now, please leave. And he goes that same same persistent reality that was in within that widow. I want now to be within the movement of prayer.

I want a persistent, continual pressing in in the arena of prayer. And if you will stay leaning in, if you will stay pushing in, he says, I tell you, I will bring justice and I will bring it speedily to you. He says, and in that place, justice will break in.

You ever read any stories of revival? You ever heard any stories where they were gathered in a room and they heard this noise like a freight train? South Africa, they heard a noise like a freight train, but they could not. It was couldn't been a freight train because there was no railroads around. And they said they heard this noise like a freight train coming through and it hit the room.

It's called the Holy Spirit coming upon them and shaking them. And a revival spun and broke forth. It's called justice.

The idea of a cancer ridden body and you walking up and in your meekness and humility. I can't wait for the day. There's no screaming.

There's no hollering. I walk up and I lay my hands on a terminant ill individual. And I say in the name of Jesus, be healed.

And right in front of everyone's eyes, boom, power comes forth and healing is restored. That's called justice. The idea of a young 20 something standing up on their college campus can hardly talk.

They're so nervous. There's 12 people standing in front of them. They're shaking because they're so nervous.

Their first public message. And they say, Jesus is the Son of Man. And all of a sudden, boom, they weep and fall on their knees and cry out for conviction.

And 12 of them get saved that day. Three days later, that little 12 meeting has gone to 3,000. A day later, it's gone to 50,000.

That's called justice. It's called impact. It's called the church having fruit.

And Jesus lays out an unbelievably simple plan. And he says, listen, if you will have a life of secret prayer, a life of corporate prayer, but a life before me, he says, I will reward you openly. But in that, he says, I want you to be persistent.

And I want you to have continually come before me. And he says, if you will be persistent and if you will continually come before me, he says, I will give you what you want. Now, I have an amazing, I have a big question that I want to ask when I get to heaven, because I want to know the math, because I have no idea.

In Kansas City, we have no idea of when it will break forth, the promises over what we're doing there. I have no idea. It drives me crazy sometimes.

But I tell you, the scripture clearly tells us if we will stay in the place of persistent prayer, we will stay continually pressing in. We will see what we what we're going after. We will see the promises of God break in.

And so it's establishing with the House of Prayer in Kansas City. Mike moved there in 1983. And in 1983, he felt the Lord call him, tell him to call a fast.

And he and the Lord kind of put some little cherry on top. He says, I want you to call the city. And Mike's like, what? I just moved here and you want me to call the city? Isn't that kind of arrogant? So he has this dialogue and the Lord confirms it.

So he calls this prayer meeting, this fast, 21 days. And to his complete and utter surprise, a thousand people showed up for this fast for 21 days. And in the middle of this fast, Mike has his Bible open.

And for a whole day, he was just praying this portion of scripture. For a whole day, he just had it in his heart. He was meditating on it.

And the next day, this prophetic gentleman comes up to him and says to him, listen, the Lord says yes to your request. He goes, what? He says, the Lord says yes to your request. And he goes, well, what was I asking? And he goes, if I tell you the chapter and the verse that you were in, will you listen to what I have to say? He says, OK.

He says, you were in Psalm 27, verse 4, all day yesterday. Mike's completely shocked because he's just going to get to know this guy. He's a little strange.

He's completely shocked. And he says to him, listen, the Lord is going to establish night and day persistent prayer. And it's going to be in the spirit, in the tabernacle of David.

And what the Lord was saying is that in the same way that David set up persistent prayer, in the same way that the Lord established that reality in the life of David, where David was a man, was in awe of a beautiful God. And he said, because of who God is, we must have night and day worship because of who he is. This prophetic gentleman stated in that reality of a fascinated heart, night and day prayer is going to be established.

And so from that moment on, Mike has endeavored for some 16, 17, 18 years, endeavored to go after night and day prayer with a fascinated heart. And in May of 99, we started with 13 hours a day of worship and intercession. And in September of 99, we went 24-7 worship and intercession.

And under the grace of God, we've had a prayer meeting that has never, ever stopped. We'll have a meeting in our, sometimes we'll get up and we'll have a staff meeting in the prayer room. We have a worship meeting going on in the briefing room.

We've had a prayer meeting that has been continually going. And in that context, we have called individuals to the prayer of David. Because David had this moaning in his heart.

David had this cry in his heart. David is haunted by his enemies. And he says, there's something I want.

If you've ever read much of our material, you know, the verse for David, he goes, I've seen God. And he goes, there's one thing that I want. And that is to gaze on the beauty of God all the days of my life.

And in that place, I will inquire of him. A persistent, perpetual prayer meeting based on fascination with God. The idea that I like to pray is mind-blowing to me.

When I first moved to Kansas City, if you would have said to me, Duane, you're going to be an intercessory missionary. My response would have been, never. I mean, sitting in a prayer room for two hours, never.

But the idea now, and I'm not saying it's all glorious. But I'm telling you, I've had certain seasons where I go in, in two hours, truly goes by quickly, because I stand and I worship God. And I say, I love you.

Oh, God, I love you. And then I put down my hands and I say, oh, send revival. God, I love you.

Anoint the platforms in my city. God, I love you. Oh, I worship you.

Would you release the promises over our city? You said 300,000 souls. And we ask you today, give us 300,000 souls. Go back into the place of God, I worship you.

God, I love you. The idea that prayer is enjoyable. A shift coming to your thinking that prayer can actually be life giving to you.

A shift coming to the praise that you can actually walk into a prayer meeting depressed and you can actually leave feeling alive on the inside. You can walk in going, I don't know. And you come out going, oh, he's amazing.

It's called enjoyable prayer. Isaiah 56, he highlights it. I don't believe he was talking about, let's get out our tambourines and tap our toe.

We're going to have a good prayer meeting, people. No, he's going enjoyable to where their spirit touches your spirit. The Word of God comes alive and you enjoy it.

You like it. It means something to you. And I'm going to make some amazing, bold statement here.

I've got the Scripture backing me up. That if you walk this road of prayer, if you go down this avenue of prayer, those promises that were written over you in your mother's womb, they will happen. Because when every one of you were created, the eternal God looked upon you with great joy and great delight.

And as he was looking upon the creation of you and your mother's womb, there was destinies and there was futures being written about every single one of you in this room. And I am jealous for you to accomplish everything that God has for you. And the only road to long lasting fruit is your heart being exhilarated with a beautiful God all the days of your life.

When you look at the heroes of the faith, Hebrews 11, I love that portion of Scripture. You've got all the big dogs of the Scripture in there. And as you begin to read through, their journey was fraught with temptation.

Their journey was fraught with misfortune, with delayed promises, humility, humbling of each individual. But you look at them and heaven's perspective said they finished the race unbelievably well. The promises over their lives were all accomplished.

And I cannot think of anything more scarier than me standing before the Lord one day with regret because the promises over my life were not accomplished. I now have the way forward. It's called a life of fascinated prayer.

And in the place of being fascinated with God, life will begin to flow into me. Life will begin to flow into me, will have impact. Those things that I dream about will actually take place.

Those things that I long to see will actually take place. And I want to today walk away from here, that if you have any desire, feeling a call to a place, to a career, to a ministry, to settle into your understanding now, that if I walk this out void of a life of prayer, void of a life of worship, I will turn around when I'm 50 years old and I will look back and I will say, I wonder if I would have done it differently, what would have happened. But if you will walk down the road, the life of continually being before the Lord Jesus, and in that place, you'll turn around and you'll see long lasting fruit.

I want to read you something. Just doing some casual reading in one of my small books. Somebody just let me use this while I'm just reading this while I'm here.

Hundred years ago, after arriving in Los Angeles early in 1906, Seymour was ready to preach his first sermon given at the Santa Fe Street mission was based on Acts 2 for Hutchins, who had accepted holiness, rejected Seymour's message on the baptism of the Holy Ghost and was speaking in tongues as a third work of grace. When he returned to the mission to conduct an additional service, he found the door had been padlocked by Hutchins. Seymour then was invited by by brother and sister Asbury, who were members of the mission to conduct services in their home at 214 Bonnie Bray Street.

For several days, there was intense prayer, preaching and praise in the Asbury home. On the evening of April 9th, 1906, seven persons were baptized with the Holy Ghost with physical manifestations of speaking in unknown tongues. The unusual sudden rejoicing among the saints during the next few days drew onlookers from the neighborhood.

Crowds gathered daily. Several days later, Seymour received the baptism and it was necessary to move to a larger facility. Within a week, an old converted livery stable was rented at 312 Azusa Street from 1906 to 1909.

A daily explosive Holy Ghost revival attracted the attention of the city, the attention of the state, the country and the world. This is before Internet. Three to nine services were conducted each day.

People came to receive their personal Pentecost beggars, the wealthy politicians, common laborers, religious leaders and persons from various other socioeconomic stations went to 312 Azusa Street. Strangely, there was no paid volunteer media advertising, yet the news media, including the Los Angeles Times, reported on the strange occurrences. Miracles of physical healings and spiritual healings were recorded daily.

Oftentimes it was reported that sinners would experience the presence and working of the Holy Spirit within them one and two blocks distant from the mission meetings. This unique African American leader Seymour had affected a worldwide ecumenical message and movement. People came to Azusa Street from various continents, received their personal Pentecost and returned to their native countries to boldly proclaim the sacred message.

This gigantic work of the Spirit overshadowed Parham's work by such a magnitude that it compares in his futile. Seymour was able to develop and maintain a totally integrated leadership among the brethren at Azusa Street. Racism and prejudice had been completely washed away under the blood of Jesus, a fruit of revival that became visible.

And at a quick read, it's an amazing reality that Azusa Street truly before the Internet. A global impact. This little street corner prayer meeting.

Started in a house and moved to a place that had global impact. And that little story, little excerpt does not begin to touch actually on the life of Seymour. But he was a man that would spend up towards seven and eight hours a day in the place of prayer.

He did not know, actually, even I don't think he knew all that would take place. He was kicked out of Bible school because he was an African-American. Sometimes he'd have to sit on the outside of the door and listen to the message through the door.

But he had something of a paradigm, something of an understanding that a weak voice. Heaven was listening and responding to. A weak voice.

Genesis one, God was listening. Genesis one, God, who spoke and creation came to being. The Genesis one, God, who releases creative miracles.

The Genesis one, God, who gives the Holy Spirit was listening to this. This young African-American was actually mature in age when this took place, was listening to him. And it's the Luke 18 reality.

He had no idea when it was going to break in upon him. But as a young man came across another misfortune, because he was black, he could not preach. And because of what took place, they rejected actually the message of the Holy Ghost.

And in that context, he goes, well, let's still have a prayer meeting. And so he gets seven people, they start to gather and worship and pray. And through the word, suddenly justice breaks in.

And the reality is, is that is what I am praying for. The promises over our lives will be one as we stand before the Lord in the place of prayer. I have no doubt in my mind.

This is being recorded. So someday I'll be able to come back and prove it to you. But I have no doubt in my mind that what we pray for in Kansas City will happen.

It might be 20 years from now, but I promise you it will happen. We will have souls one, we will have healings take place. We will have the terminally ill healed.

But I will stay before God under his grace. We will stay there until it breaks in. And this afternoon, I want to end it by saying this persistent prayer.

All the days of your life can be an enjoyable journey. The idea that you don't stay up and watch your favorite show, but go to bed an hour earlier to make the struggle to get up at six instead of seven and stay with the Lord for an hour. Can profit you much.

TV profits you nothing. The human voice before an eternal God moves eternity. I have the ability to move eternity.

My theology has that. When I pray, God responds and eternity shifts. Potato chips and a clicker profits nothing.

My space, nothing. I got to stay current. If you don't know what my space is, forget it.

Worship team. Man, man, man. Often when I stand or just when I when I share, I'm jealous.

There's a jealousy for you. I'm jealous for you that you would accomplish everything that God has for you. As I shared last night during the ministry time, we are in great need of heroes in the faith.

Great need of heroes in the faith. We need individuals to arise with courage. Some of you are going to be mothers and that what that's what the Lord has given you.

We are in need of you to be courageous and lead your family in the place of prayer. Some of you might speak to thousands and we are in need of you to be courageous and walk the road the Lord has called for you. Some of you call to be leaders in the political sphere.

We are in great need of you to be before God. There's this one guy that had quite an influence. His name was Daniel.

A life of prayer and a life of fasting. Kings and rulers shift. David gets positioned every time right beside the ruler of a nation because it's 16 years old.

He says, I will not defile myself with the things of the land, but I will serve my God. And all the days of his life, he prayed and fasted. You know that Daniel in the lion's den, that neat little story that happened, that happened when he was in his late, late years, all the days of his life.

And as as he matured, some of his fellow workers got jealous and they said, we're going to get him at his most powerful point, his life in prayer. And that is when the decree went out. No one will worship another God.

David, Daniel said, take me on. Let's see how it lands. Take on my only source is prayer, and you're never going to get that.

So this is the vision that we need you guys to arise with. Corporately on college campuses, Wednesday night Bible studies. It grows and it wanes.

But five years from now, you're still doing prayer meetings. Five years from now, you've read through the book of John 22 times and it's becoming real to you. The word of God has life in it.

You're gaining from it. This is what we need. We are in need of people to pick up what they've heard all their lives and begin to do it.

Live before God and enjoy him in worship. And in that, I promise you great fruit will come from your life. In that, I have great, great confidence.

You will have great impact. Amen. Let's worship.

Let's just stand and worship. Jesus, we love you. And I'm asking for a grace to come upon us this afternoon.

I'm asking for a grace in worship and prayer. Even now, as we posture before you to be established, to release this grace upon us. The understanding that all the days of

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