

Prayer Walk Outline

May 30 - June 3

Monday - Nehemiah 1 - A Heart for The City

Summary - Nehemiah loved the city and the people of the city. He was intentional in his inquiries into what was happening, and then felt the weight of the pain of the story of Jerusalem and therefore God's people. He sought the Lord in prayer for the city and for the Lord's word so he would know what to do.

Points - he prayed several things that may inform our prayers this day...

- * He worshipped the Lord and exalted His name
- * He thanked God for His involvement in the peoples lives in the past
- * He confessed the people's sin as His own
- * He cried out for God's plan for the city and for the people

Prayer - as you walk the streets, worship the Lord for who He is and exalt His name. Thank Him for what He has done - and especially for all you see with your eyes. Confess the sin of the church and of the neighbourhood before Him - especially ways in which we have told Him we know better. Ask the Lord to give you a vision for what He is doing in Burnaby.

Tuesday - Jeremiah 29:4-7 - A Presence in our Neighbourhoods

Summary - God has carried His people into exile. They had disobeyed and suffered the consequences of their action. They were desperate to go back to the safe place of Jerusalem and especially the temple where they believed God's presence was to be found. They listened to false prophets who told them that they would "go back" soon. The amazing thing about this passage is that God informs them that indeed His presence is right there - in Babylon.

Points - several things are articulated which shape our prayer...

- * God not only allowed this to happen, He was responsible at some level.
- * He instructs His people to "move in" and settle down
- * He instructs His people to be present in the neighbourhoods of Babylon
- * He tells them to be involved with the life there.
- * He tells them to seek the peace and prosperity of the neighbourhood
- * He instructs them to pray for life in the neighbourhood.

Prayer - as you walk the streets today, thank God for the neighbourhood, no matter how secular it is. Thank Him for His presence. Thank Him that He has allowed you to be there. Look for signs of peace in that place and thank God for them. Pray for each of your neighbours on your street and consider making a map of 10 neighbours homes around you to place on the fridge.

Wednesday - Luke 10:1-12 - Sent to Neighbourhoods with Good News

Summary - in Luke 1-8, Jesus takes the disciples on mission and instructs them through what He does. In Luke 9, he sends out the 12 and invites them to be engaged in kingdom mission. In Luke 10, he sends out the 72 (70) to do the same. This is a Hebrew way of saying - if you are a disciple of Jesus - you have been sent to join God at work in the neighbourhood. He tells them that they cannot do His mission in their strength, nor should they be distracted from what He sent them to do. Pay attention to His presence, and learn to discern where He is working and where He is not present.

Points - there were several key things in this text that help us to pray

- * We are to realize that all God's people are sent ones.
- * We are to pray for workers, not just for the reception of the message
- * It is His harvest, His power at work and His mission
- * We are to seek His presence in neighbourhoods which we go.
- * We are to act out the good news and proclaim it - the kingdom is here.
- * We are to wipe the dust off our feet in places where we are not heard - for their sake.

Prayer - as you walk the streets today, praise God that He has chosen to send you. Thank Him for His power at work within you. Ask Him for more workers, and to protect you as you go. Look for people of peace - where God is already at work. Pray for opportunities (and take them) to both heal people and proclaim the kingdom is present). If you are not received, cry out to the Lord on behalf of the people there and walk away in hopes they will repent.

Thursday - Colossians 4:2-6 - Paying attention to God at Work

Summary - this passage is Paul's encouragement to us to commit ourselves completely to prayer, paying attention to where we see God at work in our neighbourhoods and then to thank Him for how we see Him present. We are to ask that He open space for us to proclaim the good news of the kingdom in word and deed and to speak in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Points - there are several things to note in this text...

- * We need to be fully devoted to prayer
- * We need to discern where He is present and be thankful when we see His presence.
- * We need to commit our whole being to the proclamation of the gospel.
- * Our actions, our words and all of our conduct must bear witness to God

Prayer - as you walk today, look for signs of God's presence and power at work. Thank Him for where you see evidence of Him at work. Pray for opportunities to interact with someone that needs to hear about Jesus. Make sure to act in such a way that people will see and hear Jesus in and through you.

Friday - Matthew 6:9-13 - The Lord's Prayer

Summary - we have domesticated this prayer. It is a prayer of revolution. It is a prayer of defiance against the ways of the world and of declaration of the kingdom of God. Caesar is not Lord of our but Our Father is transcendent God who is above all. We seek His kingdom, His will and desire to live under His rule and reign. He will give us all we need to accomplish all He has asked, and the way of the Lord is one of humility and reconciliation rather than one of violence.

Points - there are several things to note in this text...

- * The communal nature of the declaration
- * The defiance against Caesar who wanted to be called Father
- * The transcendence and power of God
- * The provision of all that is needed to accomplish all that he asks
- * The mercy and power of Christ the King
- * The need for deliverance from the enemy
- * The eternal nature of the Kingdom of God

Prayer - as you walk today, thank God for the community of His people and the reality of His kingdom. Our God is the only true God. Adore Him for his transcendence. Pray that His will would be done on your street and in your neighbourhood. Ask Him to show you His presence and for the provision to accomplish His mission. Confess your sin and forgive others who show evidence of sin also. Pray a blessing over the neighbourhood and ask God to reign in that place.