

Praying with Earnest Expectation

Breakthrough: Leaning into the Power of Prayer

Part 3 of 7 - January 19, 2025

When we pray without expectation, we misunderstand the whole concept of prayer and deny God's character and power.

Psalm 5:3: In the morning, Lord, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait expectantly.

How would your prayer life change if you prayed to God without limitations but with expectation?

1. It's _____ Time.
 - Luke 3:15a
 - We should expect BIG things from God because God is a BIG God.
 - Faced with giants, we become so exhausted that we only notice how big they are and forget how big our God is!
2. Praying When the _____ Looks Dim.
 - Acts 12:1-5
3. God _____ Our Prayers in Ways We Don't Expect.
 - Acts 12:6-12
 - We often don't know how God will answer our prayers, but we trust He sees the complete picture and His plan clearly.
4. Praying in _____ is Expecting Results.
 - Acts 12:12
 - Acts 12:15-17a
5. Tell _____ What God is Doing in Your Life.
 - Acts 12:17b

Growth Questions:

1. From your point of view, what are the most challenging parts of praying with earnest expectation?
2. Praying when life is challenging, or the outcome looks grim can be difficult. What reminders would you include in a “covenant” agreement between you and God to enhance your prayer life during these dry prayer seasons?
3. The early church in Acts 12 prayed earnestly, but they did not pray with expectation. Why do you think this was the case?
4. There is a balance between being showy and sharing with people what God is doing in your life. What does that balance look like, and why is it important?
5. Name one person in your life you could have as your prayer partner. We all need people in our corner praying on our behalf.