Prayer Path – Simply Church Series

Simply Church, Part 3 – The Prayer of a Courageous Believer (Phil. 1:12-30)

Phil. 1:19, "For I know that as you pray for me and the Spirit of Jesus Christ helps me, this will lead to my deliverance" (NLT).

Confidence and courage, for followers of Christ, are two sides of the same coin. They go hand in hand. As we heard this week, Paul's courage to share the Gospel was centered on Christ. He had a confidence in Christ, and through this confidence, he had the courage to walk in the path that God had laid out for his life, which often included tests, trials, and hardships. The confidence and courage he had in Christ was contagious, as it encouraged the church at Philippi to have the "courage to speak the word of God without fear" (vv. 14). This courage also helped them pray confidently for Paul, for fellow believers, and for the advance of the Gospel in Philippi and beyond.

In like manner, when we live our lives centred on Christ, it enables us to develop a strong prayer life; one that is confident in the fulfillment of God's will, that God will use us to spread the good news of the Gospel, and that God will show up in the lives of those whom we are praying for.

Questions/Challenge

- 1. What stood out to you from the message this week?
- 2. When you live your life centered on Christ, it produces a confidence and a courage that is contagious, and helps others follow suit. How does this impact your prayer life?
- 3. Challenge: In addition to praying for people and for situations that you may be aware of, why not put hands and feet to your prayers. Sometimes we are praying for God to meet a need when God is looking to us to meet the very need we are praying for. Ask God to give you the courage the put hands and feet to your prayers, and to open a door of opportunity, so you can encourage someone by helping them, meeting a need in their lives, sharing the Gospel, etc.

Scriptures

Matthew 7:7-11; Mark 11:24; Romans 8:26-31; Philippians 4:6-7; 1 John 5:14-15; 2 Chronicles 7:14