

Part 4 (May 4/7) – 2nd Mile Prayer

(a & b on one slide)

- a) How can we pray for ourselves so we can live on the “second mile”
- b) How can we pray for others to see Christ and follow Him

Prayer is a direct reflection of how much we BELIEVE that God is real and willing to act on our behalf.

Matthew 26:36-46

Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he told the disciples, “Sit here while I go over there and pray.” Taking along Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. He said to them, “I am deeply grieved to the point of death. Remain here and stay awake with me.” Going a little farther, he fell facedown and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.”

Second mile situations usually happen when we are faced with something we don't want to do.

It's OK to be afraid. It's wise to not want to go through the storm. It's right to ask that it be taken away.

But when EVIL seems to be forced on us, what do we do?

Satan's goal is to destroy our faith in God, so that we take matters into our own hands.

We must face that we are in a war of good vs. evil.

We must choose to believe that God is GOOD.

Romans 8:28

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Hebrews 12:1-2

Therefore, since we also have such a large cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us lay aside every hindrance and the sin that so easily ensnares us. Let us run with endurance the race that lies before us, keeping our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. For the joy that lay before him, he endured the cross, despising the shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

We must choose to believe God will make it worth it!

Our prayer: God, reveal yourself, and reveal the truth.

Matthew 26:36-46

Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. He asked Peter, "So, couldn't you stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray, so that you won't enter into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Closeness needs to be our goal. The reality of God in our lives steers us in the crisis.

Matthew 26:36-46

Again, a second time, he went away and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done." And he came again and found them sleeping, because they could not keep their eyes open. After leaving them, he went away again and prayed a third time, saying the same thing once more. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? See, the time is near. The Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up; let's go. See, my betrayer is near."