



Adoring God Through Prayer

February 18th, 2007

I call on you, O God, for you will answer me; give ear to me and hear my prayer. - Psalm 17:6

Adoring vs. Asking

Psalm 63

The psalmist adores God so much that he seeks Him out. He cannot wait to be with God and spend time in His presence. *How important is searching for water when you are in the desert?*

- Very important—that is how much we should feel a need for seeking God.

How much would you appreciate that water once you found it?

How is God a lot like finding water in the wilderness?

- He brings us life/sustains us
- He is badly needed

Pray—Take a moment to seek God in prayer. Pray that He will open up our hearts to spend more time seeking Him in our prayers.

Psalm 67

The psalmist calls all the people to praise God. *What does the psalmist say will happen once we really start praising God?*

- Blessings—not necessarily physical blessings.

Notice how it works—before we ask God for blessing we need to first adore and praise Him for who He is and what He has already done. So many times we get this backward and ask God for blessings without ever taking time to praise Him. He is more important than we are!

Which does the psalmist mention more here, praising God or Him blessing us?

- Praising God

The first thing we have to realize about praying our adoration of God is that we are not the focus.

The second thing we need to realize about adoring God in prayer is that He is listening and wants to hear from you. We know we love God but He wants to hear it from you! How well would your spouse appreciate just knowing you love them but never hearing you say it?

How does knowing God hears us motivate us to pray more adoringly to Him?

Prayer Exercise 1

Make a list of things you adore about God, get the help of the person who is “shut in” if that is possible. Take a piece of paper and ask your group for things they adore about God. Have a volunteer write down as many as possible. Have the group pray a prayer of adoration to God for the things listed by the group. Avoid making requests—just appreciate God.

Were there any challenges to praying a prayer only of adoration and nothing else?

- We are so used to praying other things
- Many of us rarely pray this way

What benefit could there be to praying more prayers of adoration?

- We don't pray this way to get more blessings
- We pray this way because God deserves to hear it.

What importance is there in speaking adoringly of God before making requests of Him?

- It puts God first and us last.

Praying adoring prayers to God challenges us to not keep telling him the same couple of things each time we pray. Our prayer life will grow and mature and our conversations with him will become more natural. It starts with adoration. The more time you spend with God the more you will see that you adore about Him. When you start to think about how many things there are to adore about God you will be surprised at what you will find.