

## On the wings of prayer series:

### A pure heart on the wings of prayer

**Scripture:** Hosea 6:6

#### **Introduction:**

In Ezekiel chapter 37:1-14 we read about the valley of dry bones. Ezekiel was a prophet of Judah right before Babylon carried them away to captivity and he was also a prophet during captivity.

READ EZEKIEL 37:1-14

- Spiritual drought
- Not what God had wanted them to be
- He raised the Babylonians up to discipline Israel
- Heb 12:6

\*Hope in being made healthy again

Church Spiritual drought is claiming members of the Lord's church all across the country. I believe a lack of deep relationship with God is right at the center of it all. There are empty seats here this morning. Vacated by weary hearts.

\*Prayer is a vital part of our relationship with God.

- \*If your struggling this morning there is hope
- In a relationship with God
- We find hope in prayer.

#### **Lesson:**

I. The presence of God is awesome

-Read Ex. 19:16-19

-In the presence of God we have seen:

- The heavens created
- The Sea parted
- Time stand still
- Time go backwards
- Pillars of cloud and fire
- Smoke above the tabernacle

\*In the presence of God we have seen the greatest love this world Has ever known in his son Jesus.

\*The mere mention of being in the presence of God makes me excited.

II. Moses

- Raised in the house of pharaoh as an Egyptian Ex. Ch 2
- Found his heritage and went to Midian
- Married Zipporah and had kids
- Shepherding his father in laws (Jethro's) flocks
  - \*Sees a burning bush
  - \*READ Exodus 3:1-5

**\*TAKE OFF SANDLES FOR YOUR STANDING ON HOLY GROUND.**

- III. When we cross into the NT we realize that we too have a burning bush experience through prayer.
- Its really no less miraculous than what Moses experienced
  - Just like in the worship right now
    - (God is here in our midst) Matt 18:20
    - You are in the presence of God right now
    - I don't know about you but there is no place I would rather be.
  - How much more when we pray do we approach the very throne of God Heb 4:16

- IV. When we go to God's presence in prayer I think there is a NT concept we must remember.

-READ MATT 5:23-24

**\*Reason for removing the sandals is perhaps that God doesn't want anything separating you and him.**

\*I have seen many Christians over my life sit in the pews and try to honor God with bitterness, anger, and hostility in their hearts.

-In Matt 27 we see the scene of the cross

-3 groups of people there

-Those at the back.....Not engaged

-Ecclesiastical.....Legal hard liners

-Those at the foot of the cross

-Here enemies become friends with Jesus closely in view.

**\*I think recently we have pointed out that our relationships are important to God and he places priority on them.**

- V. We too are called to be Holy 1 Peter 1:15

-Set apart from the world

-God wants us there before him

\*But with clean hearts

VI. I want to remind you that we can do things that will hinder our prayers.  
-Read Psalms 66:18  
-Read 1 Peter 3:7

**Conclusion:**

What are your sandals made of this morning in the presence of God?

- Bitterness
- Anger
- Some sin your hiding from the world

Church lets get right this morning