

Sunday 29th April

Speaker: Martin Armstrong



To Be A Transforming
Community Committed
to Jesus Christ

Our Daily Prayer Time.

1. Skeptics of Christianity say that *many claim their prayers are answered, but little empirical evidence to validate that*. Share an example of a prayer that you know was miraculously answered.
2. 85 year old English preacher Sidlow Baxter said, *'I have pastored only 3 churches in my more than sixty years of ministry. We had revival in every one. And not one of them came as a result of my preaching. They came as a result of the membership entering into a covenant to pray until revival came. And it did come, every time'*. Do you believe that there is a correlation between prayer and revival? Do you really want revival?
3. After extensive research in Baptist churches in the UK, Roy Pointer concluded *that wherever there was positive growth, there was one recurring factor: they were all praying churches*. Discuss the amount of prayer that is happening at TBC. What can we do to increase this level?
4. Deep down we all recognise the importance of prayer yet we often save it for a crisis. We are busy, lack self-discipline and also neglect God's Word. Is this the case in your prayer life?
5. In Philippians 3:8-10 Paul said, *"I am pursuing my purpose... That I may know Him."* Paul's purpose comes out of a desire to know God and to live in an intimate relationship with Him. How would you describe your relationship with God?
6. Martin Luther would read his bible & ask three questions of it. 1. How does this show something about God to praise? 2. How does this show me something about myself to confess? 3. How does this show me something I need to ask God for? An acronym that guides us how to pray is the word **P**raise, **R**epent, **A**sk, **Y**ield, How does this fit with in Martin Luther's approach?

7. Some people like to use a Prayer Journal, while others prefer to be spontaneous and open to what the Holy Spirit places on their mind. What are the advantages of each approach?
8. If you follow categories on a prayer list. Key categories can be:
 - a) Family - general needs – prayer for God’s protection - safety, health, spiritual growth.
 - b) Financial needs- material needs, possessions, key purchases, causes of anxiety, people
 - c) Decision making. What other categories would you add to this list?
9. Pray at the time that suits and is the easiest for you. Some of us are morning people, others have trouble waking up in the mornings. Some ‘come alive’ in the evenings. You can kneel, sit, lie down, run, or walk. What works best for you?
10. Reflection How much time do you spend in prayer each day? Is it enough? Would you like to spend more time with the Lord? When, where how would it suit you the best? Tell the Lord how you are feeling, then pray for and encourage each other.