



“Let your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, just as we hope in you.”  
**–Psalm 33:22**

### Introduction

- On Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup> our nation will once again observe the *National Day of Prayer*. On that day, God’s people will gather together to bring their prayers and petitions, with thanksgiving, before Him (Philippians 4:6-7) In order to pray with real *purpose* and with dynamic *power*, we must begin by orienting our hearts toward the One who is able, not only to hear, but to answer our prayers.
- In Psalm 33:22, the Psalmist records for us this *hopeful* and *confident* expectancy: *22 Let your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, just as we hope in you.*
- We will observe the National Day of Prayer here at Ebenezer during the following times: 6:30-7:00 am, 12:15-12:45 pm & 7:00-8:00 pm (childcare will be provided during the evening session)
- There is also an observance in Allentown 12:00-1:00, 7th St Monument Government Building, 17 South 7th St.

The **Purpose** of Hopeful Prayer

**James 5:16b**, *the effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.*

### Availing Prayer must be Intentional

- Our prayers must be \_\_\_\_\_!
- Our prayers must be \_\_\_\_\_!
- Our prayers must be \_\_\_\_\_!

### Availing Prayer must be Forceful

### Application for Life Change:

The **Priority** of Hopeful Prayer

**1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**, *Rejoice always, 17 pray without ceasing, 18 in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*

**Priority I** \_\_\_\_\_ Prayer

**Priority II** \_\_\_\_\_ Prayer

**Priority III** \_\_\_\_\_ Prayer

- *Thankful* that the Lord *knows* our need.
- *Thankful* that the Lord *hears* our prayers.
- *Thankful* that the Lord will *answer*.

### Application for Life Change: Make Prayer a Priority!

The **Power** of Hopeful Prayer

**Ephesians 3:20-21**, *20 Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, 21 to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.*

**Principle one** – God is \_\_\_\_\_ !

- Anything
- Any time
- Any where
- In any way that He chooses!

**Principle two** – God is able to do \_\_\_\_\_ !

**Principle three** – God is able to do even \_\_\_\_\_ !

### Application for Life Change:

The **Promise** of Hopeful Prayer

**1 John 5:14-15**, *14 Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. 15 And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.*

**Promise I** – If we ask, He *hears* us

**Promise II** – If He *hears* us, we *know* that we *have*

**Confidence in Him** - This confidence is by faith. As Hebrews 11:1 teaches us, “Now faith is the substance of things *hoped for*, the evidence of things *not seen*.”

### Summary - Confident, Hopeful Prayer

- Confident, hopeful prayers ‘avail much’.
- Confident, hopeful prayer needs to be a priority in our lives.
- Confident, hopeful prayer works through the exceedingly, abundant ability and power of God.
- We stand in His promise that He hears and is willing to answer our petitions.

### Application for Life Change:

On Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup> please join us in observing the National Day of Prayer. Please pray for our nation throughout the day in these specific areas:

- Government
- Military
- Media
- Business
- Education
- Church
- Family