Pastor Paul Dawson • February 25-26, 2023 • <u>Fill-In Online Bulletin</u> Your Will Be Done • <u>Matthew 6:9-10</u>; <u>1 John 5:14-15</u>; <u>Psalms 88:13-14</u>

When our prayers seem to go unanswered:

David praying for his unborn child - <u>2 Samuel 12:15-17</u> (CSB) Paul's thorn in the flesh - <u>2 Corinthians 12:7-10</u> The Psalmist's lament - <u>Psalms 77:1-9</u>

"Your kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven" points us toward both the purpose of prayer and the shape of effective prayer: Connecting with God's will – True intimacy with God.

⁴Remain in me, and I in you. Just as a branch is unable to produce fruit by itself unless it remains on the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. ⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in me and I in him produces much fruit, because you can do nothing without me. ⁶If anyone does not remain in me, he is thrown aside like a branch and he withers. They gather them, throw them into the fire, and they are burned. ⁷If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you want and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this: that you produce much fruit and prove to be my disciples. John 15:4-8

Why no answers?

- <u>James 4:3</u> "you ask with wrong motives" What is the motivation behind your prayers?
- <u>Isaiah 59:2</u> unconfessed sin Are you holding on to any unconfessed/unrepented sins?
- <u>1 Peter 3:7</u> how we treat others
- How are you treating other people in your life? Are you tearing them down or building them up?
- Matthew 6:5-8 lack of faith/just going through the motions

Do you believe that God hears your prayers? Do you believe that God is looking for your heart in prayer more than your words or ritual?

When it still feels like God is silent:

• Remember that God's understanding and timing is perfect, even when we don't understand it. <u>Isaiah 55:8</u>; <u>Hebrews</u> <u>2:3</u>

- Go back to the last thing God said and start there (remember His words and His deeds). Psalms 77:11-15
- Do the next thing that looks like God's Kingdom. It often begins with lament. 2 Corinthians 5:7

"When the only thing you can sense is God's absence, lament is the rope that will keep you tethered to His presence. Lament helps you hold on to God because it is an honest form of worship and communication with Him."

- Aubrey Sampson in The Louder Song

Two book recommendations:

<u>God on Mute</u> by Pete Greig <u>The Louder Song</u> by Aubrey Sampson

Bulletin announcements on page 2.

What's happening with the Lighthouse family...

Because relationship with one another is at the core of being a disciple of Christ, we invite you to find community and experience spiritual transformation through LCC's groups, classes, events, and service opportunities.

Annual Meeting: We invite you to join the LCC Leadership Team (LT), staff, and members for our Annual Meeting at 7:00pm on Monday, February 27. LCC members will be voting on our candidate for the LT. Up for consideration is Naomi Hunt. For more info regarding our annual meeting, the election, and the voting process, visit <u>www.lighthousehome.org/meeting</u>. Be sure to ask any questions BEFORE the Annual Meeting. No Q&A will happen during the Annual Meeting.

Meal Packing Event and Coin Drive: Join us on March 1-11 as we assemble OneMeals for Children of the Nations to be distributed to kids in Sierra Leone. This event is a great opportunity for families with kids of all ages to serve together. Be a part of the coin drive with funds going towards the purchase of supplies for the meals. Boxes are available in our main building lobby. For all the details, visit <u>www.lighthousehome.org/meal-packing.</u>

Worship Night: Everyone is invited to participate in this special time of worship and prayer at 7:00pm on Friday, March 3. Bring a friend and come as you are! No need to register. **Please note: On March 3, we will meet in the Fellowship Center (first floor of main building).

Coffee With Us: After losing an hour of sleep (Daylight Saving Time starts at 2am), you are going to need some coffee! Come over and join us in the Coffee Shop for some good conversations with our pastors and staff, and, of course, enjoy some great coffee! 10:15am on Sunday, March 12. No need to register.

Leaders Huddle: The Leaders Huddle, facilitated by Pastor Brandon and the LCC staff, is a time for leaders to come together for training, learning, and vision setting. 9:00am on Saturday, March 18. Visit <u>www.lighthousehome.org/huddle</u> to read more and register.

eNews: Sign up for LCC's weekly eNews. Get special announcements and messages from our pastors and Leadership Team, updates and emergency notices, and a first look at upcoming groups, classes, and events. Visit www.lighthousehome.org/enews to sign up.

Weekly bulletin & fill-in sermon notes • See <u>www.lighthousehome.org/bulletin</u> Ways to give • Visit <u>www.lighthousehome.org/give</u> Share your prayer requests with us at <u>www.lighthousehome.org/prayer</u> Newer to Lighthouse? Text HELLO to 253-201-2024 and we will be in contact with you! Sign up for our eNews at <u>www.lighthousehome.org/enews</u>. View our monthly financial highlights: <u>www.lighthousehome.org/finances</u>