Faith + Tenacious Prayer = Breakthrough

## 9th August 2020 Pastor Jeannie Mok

**3 Examples/Testimonies:**

1. Brendan’s healing from a life-threatening allergic reaction. The church and connect groups set up a prayer roster to pray around the clock and Brendan was miraculously healed from one of the worst allergic reactions that the doctors had seen.
2. Pastor Jeannie’s broken foot was healed without needing any surgery.
3. Exemption granted for Ps Jeannie’s friend to return to Hungary for a wedding.

**FAITH** is a conviction and an extremely strong belief that God will answer prayer. Faith needs to be the foundation to our prayer and we should not only ask God to move but pray with the expectation that He will move. The Bible says in Matthew 21:22 that when we pray and we have faith, we will receive what we ask for. In Hebrews 11:6 we read that it is impossible to please God without faith. It is clear that faith should be an essential component in our prayer life as it provides Biblical precedent for our prayers to be answered.

*Share with your group members about the things/people that have helped to build your faith this week.*

**TENACIOUS PRAYER.**

Tenacity is more than endurance. Tenacious faith speaks of being completely resolute, determined and unyielding until our prayer has been answered.

Biblical precedent: in Luke 18 we read about the parable of the persistent widow who is initially ignored by the judge. However, the widow persists, and the unjust judge eventually grants her the justice that she seeks saying that she is **“wearing me out with her constant requests”**.

In the same way, we should approach God with the same tenacity and pray in alignment with His will.

*What are the ways that can help us remain tenacious in prayer when we face overwhelming or challenging situations?*

*What can we do to make sure that we are praying in alignment with God’s wills?*

**Manner of Praying**

1. Humility and repentance – 2 Chronicles 7:14-15 says that God will open his eyes and ears to be attentive to every prayer made when we humble ourselves and turn from sin.
2. Wait, do not give up. In Daniel 10:13, Daniel learns that God had sent angels to overcome and fight obstacles that had been blocking the way for 21 days. God may have a reason for us to wait for our answer and we have assurance that He is always working behind the scenes as we continue to pray.
3. Ask, Seek, Knock – Matthew 7:7-8

* Ask (Philippians 4:6) with thanksgiving and acknowledge that God is the giver
* Seek (Matthew 6:33, Jeremiah 29:13, Hebrews 11:6). Our priority should be God’s Kingdom. Learn to seek the giver, rather than the gift itself.

Biblical precedence: Paul and Silas worshipping God while imprisoned.

* Knock – Create a door. Knocking involves action and taking practical steps to see our prayers answered.

Biblical precedence:

* The 4 friends who took their paralysed friend to see Jesus. When the crowds were too large for them to get to Jesus, they found another way to get their friend in the house
* Hannah praying and weeping at the temple

1. In Unity – Psalm 133 speaks of a special anointing and blessing when we come together to pray.

*Examine your attitudes when you pray to God lately, have you prayed with thanksgiving and gratitude?*

*Have you been waiting God for an answer of your prayer for a long time? Share your struggles and how it affected your prayer life? What do you need to do to be tenacious in prayer?*

*Pray for each other for special anointing and blessing at the end.*