

MommyDISCIPLEMe

MAKING CHRIST KNOWN AND GOD'S WORD HOME 

May You Pray Lesson Two "May You Pray - then Watch and Wait!"

WORD: What does the Bible say?

The theme verse: **Psalm 5:3** – "Each morning I bring my requests to you and wait expectantly." (NLT)

The theme verse for Preschoolers: **Psalm 5:3** "I bring my requests to you and wait."

WHISPERS: What Truth is God speaking to us through this verse?

God says: "I want you to bring your requests to Me then watch and wait with anticipation for how I'm going to answer your prayers." (*Stop and think about this!*)

WISDOM: How can we seek God's perspective about this Truth?

Lord, sometimes our lives are filled with things that are hard! Sometimes our prayer requests burst from our hearts with desperate urgency - and yet, we don't always see You respond right away! Do You hear? Do You care? Do You really answer our prayers? Teach us how to pray then wait with great expectations that You will respond, just like You promise. Amen!

WELCOME: What can we learn about this Truth?

In one way or another, we all have pain in our lives. God wants us to take the hard things in our life to Him and keep talking to Him, anticipating that He will hear *and* answer our cries for help when we wait on Him.

WEAVING: What does the Bible teach about this Truth?

Have you ever had a really, really, REALLY hard thing in your life that you needed God's help with? Of course you have; we all have! This is what happened in the life of one of Israel's greatest kings, King Hezekiah, too.

King Hezekiah ruled from the city of Jerusalem, and he led the nation of Israel to worship and serve the one true God. *(His story is found in 2 Kings 18-20, 2 Chronicles 29-32, and Isaiah 36-39).* Just because we worship God doesn't mean life is going to be easy, though. Sometimes things are not okay in life and we must cry out to God for help. This was definitely the case for Hezekiah when 185,000 Assyrian soldiers assembled to destroy his kingdom. Jerusalem was helpless to defend itself against such a massive army.

However, King Hezekiah knew what to do when life was not okay: he began to pray! Hezekiah cried out to God for help and then waited for His answer *(see Isaiah 37:14-20).*

It was a very, very scary time, but God heard Hezekiah's desperate prayers and answered, ***"Because you prayed to Me about Sennacherib king of Assyria, this is the word the Lord has spoken..."*** and then God proclaimed how He was going to deliver Israel from that terrible army (Isaiah 37:21-22 italics added). God spoke it, but then Hezekiah had to watch and wait for God to do what He said He would do. The night before the final attack, Hezekiah went to bed with enemies positioned right outside Jerusalem's gates.

Would God do what He said He would do? Yes! Next morning, Hezekiah and his people awakened to discover that the enemy army was completely gone! God did a miracle and rescued Jerusalem because Hezekiah prayed when life wasn't okay then waited for God's deliverance! Amen!

The thing about life, though, is that there is always something we need God's help with. Soon after God saved Jerusalem, King Hezekiah had another big problem: he got so sick that he was about to die.

What did Hezekiah do? He had learned to pray when life was not okay, so he prayed about this, too. The Bible says: ***"Then Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to the Lord..."*** (Isaiah 38:2-3 HCSB) God heard this prayer, too, and answered, ***"I have heard your prayer; I have seen your tears. Look, I am going to add 15 years to your life..."*** (Isaiah 38:5-6 HCSB).

God did exactly what He promised! He restored Hezekiah to health, and Hezekiah responded by praising Him, saying: ***"Only the living can thank You, as I do today"*** (Isaiah 38:19a HCSB).

King Hezekiah's life is a wonderful example of our theme: ***"May You Pray - then Watch and Wait!"*** It is good for us to cry out to God at all times – then watch and wait expectantly for His answer!

WALKING: How can we live out this Truth?

God promises in His Word, **“When they call on me, I will answer; I will be with them in trouble. I will rescue them and honor them”** (Psalm 91:15 NLT). If we truly believe that God will do what He says He will do, then we are going to cry out to Him and anticipate His answers. When life is not okay, our hearts are filled with sadness and fear. Yet God’s Word promises we can place our hope in Him, call out to Him and anticipate His answers to our prayers. And through it all, He promises to be with us and help us.

Let’s think about some “when life’s not okay” situations that we are going through and that other people we love are experiencing. Let’s write down these prayer requests, post them somewhere we can see, include them in our “May You Pray - Three Times a Day” prayers, then wait and watch in anticipation for how God is going to answer our prayers!

Make a prayer plan this month, writing down your prayer requests on the left side of a sheet of paper, with an “answers to prayer” column on the right side. As you write in the prayer requests, talk to your kids about anticipating God’s answers to prayer - then continue to pray about them until He does!

WONDERS: What questions do we have about this?

Questions for Preschoolers: What was wrong in King Hezekiah’s life? What did King Hezekiah do when things weren’t okay? (He prayed!) Can we do that too? (Yes!) What have we learned about prayer? (we can pray about anything, any time, anywhere) Does God hear us?

What did King Hezekiah do when things were looking really bad for Israel? (*he prayed!*) Why did God rescue Israel from the enemy army? (*because Hezekiah prayed; God said, “Because you prayed to Me...”*) What did Hezekiah do when things were not okay in his health? (*he prayed about this, too!*) What does Hezekiah’s story teach us about prayer? (*pray about everything and anticipate God’s answers to our prayers!*) What are some your prayers when life was not okay? How has God answered your prayers in the past? What are some things that are not okay in your life right now? Do you believe that God hears and will answer these prayer, too? What does God want you to do while you wait on Him?

WORSHIP: How shall we respond to the Lord for this Truth?

Worship through Prayer: Lord God, Your Word tells us, **“Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you who belong to Christ Jesus”** (1 Thessalonians 5:17-18 NLT). We bring to You all the things that make us anxious and afraid when life is not okay. We are never going to stop praying, but we need You to teach us how to wait and watch for Your answers! In Jesus’ Name, amen!

Worship through Praise:

“I Will Wait for You” - by Shane and Shane

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l8pCbtLeXzc>

Family Disciple Me: A blessing to speak over the next generation...

As sure as the moon is always there, so are answers to your prayers. God's ears are always open to your cries, both when life is okay and when life is not okay. It is not a matter of "if" but "when" He will answer your prayers. He may say *no* or *yes*, or *wait*; but He will answer. "May You Pray" - then watch and wait expectantly for God's answers. Amen!

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