

Effective prayer 2

Eph 1:17-21; 2:4-6 p.1173,4

Acts 4:23-31 p.1096

Worship Revelation

What's coming against?

(God shows us)

We bind

through

Repentance

Authority

What's God's purpose?

(God shows us)

We loose

through

Faith declaration

Effective prayer is:

- ✓ 'discerning God's mind and enforcing it with God's authority'
Stuart Lees
- ✓ 'not something we do to God but something we do with God'
Bill Johnson

Why is it difficult?

- ❖ We don't find change easy
- ❖ We are used to asking God to do what we want
- ❖ God's enemy hates us praying this way

Worship

- ✓ Focus on God 2 Cor 4:18
Prayer a partnership, Divine/human co-operative
- ✓ Regain victory perspective Eph 2:6a, 1:21
- ✓ Engage our hearts & synchronise our desires
Ps 37:4
- ✓ Partnering with God, rather than religious duty
Not lists and 'oughts', but purpose and passion

Revelation

- ❖ Spirit-led direction Jn 5:19
- ❖ Pinpoint weapons, not scattergun approach Jn 4:17b, 18

Two basic questions

- ❖ What is Your design/purpose, Lord?
For a person / church / situation / business...
- ❖ What are the enemy's schemes at work here?
The revelation we get becomes the content of our binding

Binding & loosing

Two key components in Mat 16:18

- ✓ Building God's (church) kingdom
Progressive – loosing God's design
- ✓ Plundering the enemy's kingdom (Hades)
Aggressive – binding Satan's schemes

Discerning Satan's schemes – Repentance

- ✓ We identify with the sin and rebellion
- ✓ We identify with a person's struggle
- ✓ We do not take a proud, self-righteous position
- ✓ We seek in repentance to bring situations back under Jesus' Lordship

Discerning Satan's schemes – Authority

- ✓ We forbid / tie up the enemy's work

We do it, we don't ask God to do it e.g.
'Stretch out your hand to divide the water' Ex 14:15, 16

'Prophecy to these bones' Ezek 37:3,4

Also Acts 4:29, 30 p. 1096

Footnotes

- Instead of 'Lord, bless my friend'
How about:
'Lord, how do You want to bless my friend?
What is Your purpose?
What is coming against it?'
Then loose and bind
- Pray within your means

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