



Persistent Prayer is the Key to the Christian Life

Dr. Jeff Bucknam | Romans 12:12

Ice Breaker

Reflecting on this last week's sermon and the past 7 weeks of our prayer series, what's one way your approach to prayer has been transformed or challenged?

UNDERSTAND THEIR STORY (Studying the context)

Romans 12:12 says: "Rejoice in hope". In the original Greek, the word "in" (ἐν) suggests a fixed state or location. When we see hope as something firm and secure in Christ, how does that shape the way we understand joy, particularly when we're going through suffering?

Looking at Jesus' story in Luke 18:1-8: How does this story challenge common attitudes towards prayer, particularly when we don't see immediate answers? What does the unjust judge's eventual response reveal about God's character in contrast, and why is it crucial to persevere in prayer?

CONNECT TO HIS STORY (Connecting to the Gospel)

According to Romans 5:1-5, how does our hope in God's glory lead to endurance? Note the roles of both Jesus and the Holy Spirit; what do they accomplish?

How does the phrase "faith on earth" (Luke 18:8) provide a common theme for understanding both the parable of the widow and Romans 5:1-5?

APPLY TO OUR STORY (Living the truth out)

In light of Romans 12:12, how can you remain constant in prayer during difficult seasons?

What specific steps can you take to persevere in prayer when you feel like giving up?

Accountability

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer". Which one is hardest for you to walk out in this season? Why? Who can help you stay on the right track with the one that is hardest for you?

Parenting moment

Take a moment to memorize this verse as a family. Remind them as we go through life, it might not go our way. But we can stand on His word every moment of our life!