

Mountain Talk

Week 8: Meaningful Prayer

Part One: The Approach

1. _____ words.

"And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. ⁸ Do not be like them..."

Matthew 6:7-8a (NIV)

A. Babbling: _____.

B. Purpose: to get _____.

"So they prepared one of the bulls and placed it on the altar. Then they called on the name of Baal from morning until noontime, shouting, "O Baal, answer us!" But there was no reply of any kind. Then they danced, hobbling around the altar they had made. ²⁷ About noontime Elijah began mocking them. "You'll have to shout louder," he scoffed, "for surely he is a god! Perhaps he is daydreaming, or is relieving himself. Or maybe he is away on a trip, or is asleep and needs to be wakened!" ²⁸ So they shouted louder, and following their normal custom, they cut themselves with knives and swords until the blood gushed out. ²⁹ They raved all afternoon until the time of the evening sacrifice, but still there was no sound, no reply, no response."

1 Kings 18:26b-29 (NLT)

2. **Aligning** _____: _____!

"...for your Father knows what you need before you ask him."

Matthew 6:8b (NIV)

"So don't worry about these things, saying, 'What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?' ³² These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs."

Matthew 6:31-32 (NLT)

"O LORD, you have examined my heart and know everything about me. ² You know when I sit down or stand up. You know my thoughts even when I'm far away. ³ You see me when I travel and when I rest at home. You know everything I do. ⁴ You know what I am going to say even before I say it, LORD.—

—You go before me and follow me. You place your hand of blessing on my head...¹³ You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb...¹⁶ You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed."

Psalm 139:1-5, 13, 16 (NLT)

A. God _____ **you.**

B. God _____ **for you.**

C. God _____ **you.**

What difference does this make? _____

Next Week: The Lord's Prayer – Drawing Close

"At the usual time for offering the evening sacrifice, Elijah the prophet walked up to the altar and prayed, "O LORD, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, prove today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant. Prove that I have done all this at your command. ³⁷ O LORD, answer me! Answer me so these people will know that you, O LORD, are God and that you have brought them back to yourself." ³⁸ Immediately the fire of the LORD flashed down from heaven and burned up the young bull, the wood, the stones, and the dust. It even licked up all the water in the trench! ³⁹ And when all the people saw it, they fell face down on the ground and cried out, "The LORD—he is God! Yes, the LORD is God!"

1 Kings 18:36-39 (NLT)