PRAYER CAN CHANGE YOUR LIFE

Prayer Can Change Your Life -Part 1

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May 21, 2017

**John 15:5-7 (NIV)**
"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.  If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.

Faulty Misconceptions About Prayer

* Some people think prayer **Is A Magic Wand**
* Some people think prayer **Is A First Aid Kit**
* Some people think prayer **Is A Tug Of War**
* Some people think prayer **Is A Religious Duty**

THE FOUR PURPOSES OF PRAYER

1. Prayer is **An Act Of Dedication**

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2. Prayer is **An Act Of Communication**

**John 15:15 (NIV)**
I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

3. Prayer is **An Act Of Supplication**

**Philippians 4:6 (KJV)**
Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

**John 16:24 (NIV)**
Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.

**Luke 11:11-13 (NIV)**
"Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

4. Prayer is **An Act Of Cooperation**

**John 14:11-14 (NIV)**
Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves.  I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.  And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

Today, I have given you an introduction -- Why we pray. In the future we're going to talk about, how do you pray specifically and get answers, how do you pray for other people, how do you pray for an impossible situation, and what do you do when it doesn't look like the answer is coming through? When there's a delay.