

Series "The God Who Serves"
"Prayer And The Fruitful Life"
Mark 11:20-26
Study-44

Mark 11:23, Mark 11:24 – "you pray and ask,"; Mark 11:25 – "praying, forgive,"

Why Does Jesus Teach On Prayer? Context – Mark 11:17

The Disciples Need To Pray! Disciples have been with Jesus for over 3 years.

This Passage is recorded in Matthew 21:18-22; Mark 11:20-26

The Thought Of Our Passage: "The Fruit Of Grace In One's Life Results From The Prayer Of Faith To Cope With Insurmountable Difficulties."

1. Verses 20-21 – Remembrance And Prayer

2. Verse 22 – Faith And Prayer

3. Verse 23 – Belief And Prayer

4. Verse 24 – Asking And Prayer

5. Verses 25-26 – Forgiveness And Prayer

1. Verses 20-21 – Remembrance And Prayer:

Mark 11:20

"And as they were passing by in the morning," – Wider Context – Mark 11:12-21

Mark 11:12-14, 20-21 – The Cursing And Withering Of The Fig Tree.

Mark 11:15-19 – The Cleansing of the Temple.

Mark 11:17

Context – Of The Fig Tree Is The Main Focus: Mark 11:12-14

We Need To Note:

- The disciples alone hear the curse upon the fig tree.
- The disciples alone note the results to the fig tree.
- The disciples alone hear what Jesus afterwards teaches on the subject.

Fig Tree Is A Symbol Of Israel: The Nation Was Fruitless; Had Leaves But No Fruit. Foliage Is Never A Substitute For Fruit!

Mark 11:20 – “they saw the fig tree withered from the roots up.”

The Law Of Life. Anything Which Is Useless Invites Disaster.

Matthew 21:20 – “How did the fig tree wither at once?”

Mark 11:21 – “And being reminded,”

Remembrance And Prayer: “And being reminded,” – What is Peter reminded of? The Power Of Jesus!

The Cursing Of The Fig Tree Was A Demonstration Of The Power Of Jesus For Judgment.

That’s where all effective prayer begins, with some sense of God’s past power displayed.

15X in that book of Deuteronomy we read, “You shall remember...”

Psalm 77:11-12

2. Verse 22 – Faith And Prayer:

Mark 11:22

“Have faith in God.” – “having trust, complete reliance on God, confidence in God, God is the object.” Matthew 21:21

We must trust His power, but we also must trust His purpose and His promise and His plans and His will.

Isaiah 28:16

Matthew 6:9-10

1 Peter 4:19

3. Verse 23 – Belief And Prayer:

Mark 11:23

“Truly I say to you,” – “this is a true statement, this is of the truth.”

“mountain” – “a great insurmountable problem; something that was humanly impossible.”

1 Cor 13:2

“and does not doubt in his heart,” – This is doubting God; When we pray, we must believe, trust in God. It is not once but a living trust and belief.

Mark 10:27

“does not doubt in his heart,” – Jesus is not talking about doubting yourself, He is talking about doubting Him.

Matthew 17:20

James 1:6-8

“it shall be granted him.” – “come to be, it shall be to him, he shall have it.”

The fruit of grace in one’s life will be manifested with the faith to cope with insurmountable difficulties.

4. Verse 24 – Asking And Prayer:

Mark 11:24

John 15:16

Matthew 7:7-11

Psalms 37:4

Prayer is effective and pleasing to God only when it issues from a loving heart; A heart that is in harmony with God’s heart.

James 4:2-3

Mark 14:36

John 15 – fruitfulness comes when we abide in Him, and abide in His Word.

1 John 5:14

5. Verses 25-26 – Forgiveness And Prayer:

Mark 11:25

Matthew 6:14; Matthew 18:35

“forgive” – “remit it, to send forth, forsake, lay aside, let go, yield up get rid of it.”

Matthew 6:12

Ephesians 4:32

Israel Towards The Gentiles, (Romans) James 4:6

“transgressions” – “crossing a known barrier, any act by which one falls to the side, a misstep, blunder.”

Not the salvation sense, but in the sense of interrupting my fellowship and my usefulness in my prayer life.

1 John 1:9

Mark 11:26

Matthew 6:15

Application:

1. Fruitlessness Invites The Curse.
2. Genuine Faith Results In Answered Prayer.
3. Faith Inspires Hope That Is Firmly Rooted In God's Infallible Promises.
4. True Faith Is Accompanied By Love, Which Implies The Forgiving Spirit.