



The program that brings you a range of Christian perspectives

Transcript for Episode 9: Power of Prayer 2

Carrie: Welcome to 'Singapore Heartbeat'! The program that brings you a range of Christian perspectives. You're with me, Carrie-ann.

Prayer is an essential act of communication with God for everyone. For this reason, there is a need for us to understand prayer.

Reverend James Singh, a man who earnestly seeks the heart of God, is an Evangelist who cuts across denominational lines to network with larger Christian Community around the world to build God's Kingdom on earth.

He gives us his views on how God intends for us to pray.

Music

Rev James: In Matthew chapter 6, Jesus rebuke them because people or believers in those days are using the same word in repetition just like the pagans use the same words and it became like chanting. And it just repeated over and over and over again. The Lord is putting it across that we do not use the same words like we're chanting. If you have a relationship with someone, you don't want to say the word over and over again. You want to have a dialogue with that person and rather than a monologue like a broken recorder that is always going one way. But again in Thessalonians, Paul began to say pray without ceasing. That means that we need to pray. There's a time where we give our hearts in prayer constructively, spiritually, opening up our hearts in prayer. But at the same time I can be praying, spending quality time in prayer alone with the Lord but at the same time after my prayer I can drive maybe a long drive maybe to my ministry or some people drive to their working place. They're driving but yet their mind, their hearts are still in constant deep thought in God. Thinking and meditating what they've prayed or mediating what the Lord has said in their heart. So that was what Paul was saying, pray without ceasing. That means, I can be waiting for a train, I can just close my eyes but not sleeping but my heart my mind is just thanking God from my heart non verbally or it can be verbal when I'm coming with God's people to pray.

Carrie: Is there a specific or privileged time or moment to pray? Like in the beginning and the ending of the day or on special seasons like Christmas.



The program that brings you a range of Christian perspectives

Rev James: Prayer should be a daily spiritual discipline in our life rather than a specific occasion. If a Christian begins to pray only on specific occasion then that'll be detrimental to their spiritual life because God wants us to pray without ceasing that means continuous prayer. Jesus teaches us to pray, we need to pray in the mode of Matthew chapter 6. We should not wait for any important days or in the event of one person's life to pray but we need to discipline ourselves in prayer. If not we will never be strong in our prayer life.

Carrie: If God is all wise and knowing, why do people have to pray?

Rev James: Basically we need to know the Bible, the word of God and we need to know that God is the creator and we are the created beings. As a created being we need to acknowledge that our dependence is upon God. I pray because I need God, I pray because I'm helpless, I pray because God is all knowing. If God is all knowing, why didn't He answer my prayer? Then if that's the case then I'll become a robot and God will just feed me when He knows, but then there's no relationship, there is a relationship and a dialogue with God, like a relationship that is built. That is why Christians need to understand that God is all knowing but our dependence is on God. Once they begin to understand this, then prayer becomes very meaningful in their lives.

Carrie: Can prayer move the hand of God?

Rev James: I believe that prayer can move the hand of God, I believe that in your life and my life when we pray we see God's hand move. We see God provide, God answer our prayer. We see it in our churches, we see it in individual lives, in every father mother's children, and we see it happen. So prayer can move the hand of God but we need to really pray and seek the face of God. And I believe Matthew chapter 6 verse 33 Jesus say that seek thee first the Kingdom of God and all these things shall be added to you. So when we put our faith in the Lord in prayer, God can answer prayer.

Carrie: You've just heard Reverend James Singh, a Singapore Evangelist, who brings the gospel of Jesus Christ to far flung corners of the nations. This program is brought to you by HCJB Asia Pacific.

– End of transcript –