

Intro: Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead

John 11:38-44

- Jesus was leaving us an example of what to do when something in our lives has died.
- Jesus asks us to partner with Him and MOVE that Stone.
  
- Love languages
  - We expect God to answer with our love language
  - But God's language is **TRUST**
  - **I did believe – Jesus let me down – He was late!**
  
- Paul was in the same place – overwhelming trouble 2 Cor 1:8-9
  - Is there something in our lives that has deteriorated into death?
  - Do we not all have a Lazarus
- Does Jesus leave us an example of how to get prayers answered?
- Does Jesus show us how to pray **effective prayers**?

## 1) Communion / Relationship with your Heavenly Father

- Jesus takes them back to the tomb – the dead thing... John 11:38-44
- **Jesus lifted up His eyes** – Heaven is where His answer would come from...His Father
- Jesus thanked His Father before the Father had even done anything for Him.
- Do we have relationship/communion with our Heavenly Father?
- Jesus is our source of supply, *even though we think He is late!*
- Martha was still expectant, regardless of the situation, she was ready to run out and meet Him when she heard He was coming.
- We need community – but do we point other to Jesus or just stroke them?
- Martha called Mary: **“Jesus is calling you”**

## 2) Confidence

- *Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, “Father, I thank You that You have heard Me”* Jhn 11
- We are sons, daughters of God, we are His heirs Gal 3:26 & 29

## 3) Conviction

- **Because of the people who are standing by I said this, that they may believe** Jhn 11:45
- Paul said the same: *“Many will give thanks because God...”* 2 Cor 1:11
- Are we praying out of conviction?
- Do your prayers upset the enemy?

## Effective Prayer comes from a place of Communion, Confidence & Conviction

- You may say... *"I have and continue to do all these things but still there is no answer"*
  - How long? Waiting 4 days, 4 years, 40 years
- But something we notice in the story is that **Jesus says He had power...**
- **"I am the resurrection and the life"**

Jhn 11:25

### 4) Powerful Effective Prayer comes from a place of: **The Spirit**

- **"God who raises the dead..."**

2 Cor 1:9

#### **Example:** Zacharias and Elizabeth / Temple

- Righteous people/blameless/ no child/ both old and advanced in years
  - The incense on the altar symbolised prayer *Ex 30, Rev 5:8, Rev 8:4-5*
  - **The incense required fire to burn** - The incense – would not burn by itself – Incense required fire...the coals had to be carried from the altar of sacrifice to the altar of incense – the incense was fuelled by the fire from the altar
  - **Who was the sacrifice** – Jesus
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- Only a priest offers prayers – we are a priest and we should always pray in the Spirit (tongues) to be powerful and effective. **Eph 6:18**
  - Our prayers require the fire of the Spirit – to be effective – the coals (Holy Spirit) from the sacrifice of Jesus, ignite our prayers with life, Holy Spirit life **Rom 8:25**

### Conclusion

- Pray in the **Power of the Spirit:** out of a place of **Communion, Confidence and Conviction**
- Watch the dead things come to life – **See His Glory - See the Enemy Upset**