



## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### SERIES: EFFECTIVE PRAYER

#### PRYR03-“Who You Think You Talkin’ To?”

Week April 29-May 05, 2018

Scripture Reference: James 5:16b-18 NKJV

Order DVDs/CDs of the teaching online or at the Joyful Noise Media Center so you can review the material in advance of the KHG meeting.

#### **JAMES 5:16b-18 NKJV**

*<sup>16b</sup> The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. <sup>17</sup> Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. <sup>18</sup> And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.*

1. In Sunday’s message, Pastor MGB emphasized that the Godhead is a Trinity, and effective prayer is not directed to the Father only.

Discuss.

Why is it a challenge for some people who believe in the Trinity to “mix it up” and talk directly to the Christ or directly to the Holy Spirit during prayer?

2. Pastor MGB explained that there are historical issues behind Jesus’s instruction in “The Lord’s Prayer” to say, “*Our Father...*”

Why would the AUDIENCE have had an impact on His teaching about prayer?

Why would the ERA or TIMING have had an impact on His teaching about prayer?

3. Pastor MGB suggested that many people see the Christ and the Holy Spirit as agents of God, but not as God.

Discuss.

If people recognize that the Christ and Holy Spirit are co-equal with God, what are some of the reasons for not also talking directly to them in prayer?

## APPLICATION EXERCISES

1. Since the Christ has been given all authority in Heaven and on Earth according to Matthew 28:18, take a few minutes to thank Jesus for His grace and to talk to Jesus about His promises to heal, to deliver, and to provide. (For the purpose of this exercise, instead of thanking the Father *for* Jesus or talking to the Father *about* Jesus and, talk directly to the Christ.)
  
2. Since the Holy Spirit is our Helper, Teacher, and Guide, take a few minutes to thank the Holy Spirit for His protection, for His being with you, and for keeping you, and ask the Holy Spirit to provide you with wisdom and direction and guidance. (For the purpose of this exercise, instead of thanking the Father *for* the Holy Spirit or talking to the Father *about* The Holy Spirit, talk directly to the Holy Spirit.)
  
3. Take a few minutes to mix it up in prayer. Make a deliberate effort to thank each member of the Godhead for certain things, and make a deliberate effort to request each member of the Godhead to do certain things.

For example,

Father God, I thank You for ...

Lord Jesus, I thank You for ...

Holy Spirit, I thank You for ...

Jesus, I ask You to ...

Now Father, would You ...

Holy Spirit, I need You to ...

### Prayer Tip:

One recommendation is to develop the habit of speaking to the Godhead generically from time to time. Instead of “Father God,” say “Lord God” or call Him by His Names – because that way you don’t exclude any member of the Godhead!

Unless otherwise noted, all References are to Dr. Barney’s “Effective Prayer” Message

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