The Yoke of Jesus: Partnering with Christ in Prayer

Sermon Series: “Teach me to pray, Lord.”

Sometimes we struggle with puzzlement or disappointment with God because we do not understand what He is doing. However, there is a posture in which we go with Jesus in simple trust and in which He will train and equip us. This place is where Jesus gives us great revelations about God and His plans.

Matthew 11:25-30 NIV

**25**At that time Jesus said, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. **26**Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do.

**27**“All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

Without the work of Jesus Christ, we could never know God as Father. God has given us many forms of revelation. Three sources are creation, the word of God, and Jesus Christ.

**28**“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. **29**Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. **30**For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

What is Jesus offering us rest from? (From the oppression of our sins)

Lessons from the yoke of Christ: The yoke calls to mind two oxen hitched together to plow. In the spirit of this metaphor, we see that a yoke means:

1) Partnership

2) Work

3) Synergy

4) Alignment

But there is another understanding of the yoke. The yoke of Jesus is to accept His Teaching and His Training.

What does being in the yoke of Christ mean for prayer?

1. Jesus prays with us.
2. We have direct access to divine power.
3. Jesus’ victories are our victories.
4. We are apprentices of Jesus in both prayer and work.
5. In the yoke with Christ we pray in the Holy Spirit.
6. We are abiding in Christ and He in us.

As you go through this coming week, practice praying with the realization that when you pray and when you serve, you are yoked to Jesus. Turn your focus on seeking to pray the things Jesus wants you to pray for. Obey Jesus’ leading by loving and serving others knowing that Jesus works with you in this. And ask Jesus to teach you to pray.

NOTE:

On the altar there are many prayer cards that have been bound together by topic. These are called Keys to the Kingdom. They are Scripture based prayers that can help you learn to pray boldly and build your faith and confidence in praying to God. We invite you to come up and use them whenever service is not going on. Please leave them here. If you like something, you can write it down or photograph it with your phone.