**A Prayer Workshop -- *Morning Edition***

**Discovering and Applying Biblical Prayer Principles**

**from Hebrews 11**

***Session One: Faith in Action--Praying God’s Promises***

**Or, What does it mean to “pray in faith”?**

**Hebrews 11:1-3**

Hebrews 11:1–3 (ESV) 1 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. 2 For by it the people of old received their commendation. 3 By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

1. Faith, and therefore all believing prayer, is founded upon God’s revelation. v. 1

 We must first know something about God. He has revealed Himself first in Creation, second in His Word, and third, in His Son. All three of these give us the “raw data” which we believe and which call us to prayer.

 Scriptures: Psalm 19; Matthew 6:5-15, 25-33

 Prayer prompts: God is Father; He knows all; He loves us.

 God is Creator; He sees all; He provides for us.

 God is Gracious; He has forgiven us; we forgive others.

2. True prayer comes from faith, by which all men and women are judged. v. 2

 In the end, God is looking for our response to what He has made (Creation), what He has said (His Word), and whom He has sent (Jesus, the Son). Life is a test to see how we respond to God, and prayer is one indicator that we believe Him.

 Scriptures: 2 Kings 17:7; 2 Thess. 2:8-12; Jude 5; Jonah 3:4-10

 Prayer prompts: God is rightly honored when we believe Him and seek

 Him, and pray accordingly.

 God is disrespected and rejected when we do not believe

 Him, and that (eventually) brings judgment.

 Our best prayers are those which pray God’s promises

 back to Him in the form of praise and request.

3. Believing prayer begins with the knowledge that everything is God’s. v. 3

 We are stewards of and accountable for what He created from nothing. He created life, DNA, the laws of physics and nature, the water cycle, planets, stars, and every kind of animal. All things are guided by the laws He designed.

 Scriptures: Genesis 1 & 2; John 1; Colossians 1:15-20

 Prayer prompts: God is wise and therefore knows best how we should live.

 God is owner of all and so we are accountable to Him.

 God is above all, and so He alone is worthy of worship.

Let’s pray. . . A Model Prayer to the Gracious Lord of All

Psalm 24 (ESV)

The earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof,

 the world and those who dwell therein,

for he has founded it upon the seas

 and established it upon the rivers.

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?

 And who shall stand in his holy place?

He who has clean hands and a pure heart,

 who does not lift up his soul to what is false

 and does not swear deceitfully.

He will receive blessing from the Lord

 and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

Such is the generation of those who seek him,

 who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

 Lift up your heads, O gates!

 And be lifted up, O ancient doors,

 that the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory?

 The Lord, strong and mighty,

 the Lord, mighty in battle!

Lift up your heads, O gates!

 And lift them up, O ancient doors,

 that the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory?

 The Lord of hosts,

 he is the King of glory! *Selah*