

Faith Christian Fellowship
Sunday, August 19, 2018
A Supernatural Church
6: Supernatural Prayer

TEXT: Ephesians 3:10 NLT God's purpose in all this was to use the church to display His wisdom in its rich variety to all the unseen rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. Psalm 103:7 / James 5:16-18

Contend for the supernatural: raise up and release a supernatural people, the supernatural church God intends us to be. So far: God wants to use the Church, and He has created us to be connected in order to fulfill our purpose. The supernatural church is an "us" thing, not a "me" thing. We moved past the gateway of being filled with the Spirit. A supernatural church does church supernaturally!

Church has 5 basic functions: Worship - Pray – Make Disciples - Fellowship – Do Ministry (service). How do we do them supernaturally? We looked at supernatural worship. Today: supernatural prayer.

The Church is living far below where she could and should be. James describes the prayer life of Elijah and implies we ought to be able to achieve similar results. Much of the prayer life of the Church has evolved into ritual and empty form. There is precious little rain-making going on.

- 1) Supernatural prayer expects results
 - a) James 5:16-18-We are encouraged that Elijah was a man of like passions as us: **You have the ability to pray powerfully.**
 - b) Notice James 5:16
 - i) Effectual, fervent – Not ritual, but faith and passion
 - ii) A righteous man
 - (1) 2 Corinthians 5:21 – that is you
 - (2) Notice – John 16:23-28.
 - (3) We have more jurisdiction than Elijah did in the Name!
 - c) **Paradigm Shift:** How would your prayer life change if you really thought the Father was listening to you as if you were Jesus?
- 2) Elijah expected rain I Kings 18: 41-46
 - a) He picked up the sound of rain long before there was any visible sign.
 - i) It ain't real until you hear it in your own spirit. Turn off the TV and pray. Get quiet and listen.

- ii) There are those who have gone off to eat and drink and "fulfill " themselves while some folks have kept on praying
 - b) He prayed with determination and expectation. He kept sending the servant back because he knew the rain was coming!!! He recognized God's ways
 - c) He recognized the move of God when it came.
 - i) Little clouds become big storms
 - ii) He told the backslidden king to get ready.
 - d) **Paradigm shift:** When you pray, what do you expect? How would you act if you expected rain?
- 3) Do you really want more power?
 - a) Jesus spoke with authority and demons screamed, the people marveled, and the religious cursed him. Mark 1:22
 - b) Luke 5:26. strange = *paradoxos* -I, strange, other than accepted opinion, something beyond one's expectation, a miracle. Strong: contrary to expectation, that is, extraordinary
 - c) James 5:16b Amplified: ...**makes tremendous power available [dynamic in its working].**
 - d) The minister has a responsibility to pray and prepare and listen to the Holy Ghost.
 - e) The congregation has the responsibility to make power available: **It's up to you to pray so it will be available.**
 - f) If you want power to be available, and to avail yourself of it, you will have to get out of your comfort zone.
 - i) Decide whether you want power or comfort, then never apologize for the power
 - ii) Pray – you have the jurisdiction
 - iii) Expect – come with your faith in gear
 - iv) Discern – Be ready to shift gears
 - v) Follow – Obey God if He chooses to use you!
 - g) **Paradigm shift:** If you really believed that your prayers would make the power of God available, what would you do?