

Faith Christian Fellowship
Sunday, August 26, 2018
A Supernatural Church
7: Supernatural Prayer in the Spirit

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 are discussing supernatural prayer. We looked at praying like Elijah, now we dig a little deeper.

We need to understand the ways of the Lord in order to enjoy the fullness of His works and make those works available to many. There is a way to pray accurately for situations we don't even know exist!

- 1) God will not move in the earth unless we ask Him
 - a) Remember that old saw: "Prayer doesn't change things, but it changes me"? That is hogwash.
 - b) God designed the system so that we have a part to play in it. James 4:2-3 / Matthew 6:8
 - c) We ask because God cannot (because he cannot lie Titus 1:2) move if no one asks Him. **Need does not move God.** Prayer does.
- 2) God gave dominion to man, and never took it back.
 - a) **Here is the key** understanding necessary for Biblical prayer:
 - i) God gave dominion in the earth to Adam. (Gen 1:26 / (Ps 8)
 - ii) Adam bowed his knee to Satan, but authority in the earth is still ours. Note Eph 2:1-3)
 - b) God is our covenant partner who will intervene only if asked or if some other covenant condition is enacted. Note Genesis 18: 16-33 (Vv 18-20)
 - i) The Lord is on His way to intervene in Sodom because someone there has prayed. Compare Gen 4:10 / Exodus 3:6-9 / 22:20-24, 27 / 1 Sam 9:16 / James 5:4 / Rev 6:10

- ii) He confers with Abraham because of the covenant and the presence of Lot in the city. Gen 19:16
- 3) We have authority, but God has knowledge
 - a) God needs us to give Him the opening to move in the earth. We are way to selfish and simple to be in charge of the planning and implementation.
 - i) Romans 8:26 God, in His infinite wisdom has designed a method for us to give Him permission to work in the earth without us allowing ourselves to foul it up!
 - ii) 1 Cor 14:2. When I pray in tongues I am talking to God. I do not understand it, and you do not understand it. I am praying mysteries unto God – the will and plan of God hidden from the foundations of the earth. See Eph 3:3-12
 - b) Here is a way of God I can know: When I pray in tongues, I am exercising my position of authority in the earth by asking God to move to fulfill even the portions of His plan that I don't know – even making them known to principalities and powers (v10).
 - i) I pray for people and situations. I pray for the service – I don't know what you need- He does.
 - ii) Pr 20:27 / 1 Cor 14:14 I turn on lights in the rooms of my heart. I can begin to pray out the plan of God for myself which is implanted in my heart, much of which I don't know now!
 - iii) When I speak in tongues, I am sometimes giving instruction to the ministering spirits: (angels do a lot more than they get credit for) Hebrews 1:14 / Psalm 103:20. / 1 Cor 13:1.
 - c) 1Co 14:39-40 NLT So, my dear brothers and sisters, be eager to prophesy, and don't forbid speaking in tongues. (40) But be sure that everything is done properly and in order.
 - i) We are supposed to eagerly desire the supernatural manifestations of the Spirit.
 - ii) In spite of all the abuses witnessed in Corinth, Paul said do not forbid speaking in tongues. We need it God wants it, the devil hates it. **If God says don't forbid it, then who is the author of the impulse to stop it?**
 - d) Persist!!!! Ephesians 6:18 NLT Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.