

The Gathering 6/8/23

Reminders:

- Please read and consider our discussion questions on your own prior to the Gathering on Thursday.
- Bring your Bible and a copy of these questions with you on Thursday night to aid in your participation.
- If you would like to have the assignment delivered to your inbox each week, sign up for my [Updates](#).
- Follow our Daybreak Gathering channel on Telegram to keep up to date. Search for @DaybreakGathering on your Telegram app.

[Always Pray to Not Lose Heart](#) – Prophecy Update by Pastor JD Farag

I'm thankful for Pastor JD's reminder that, as we wait, our power to endure is fueled by God through persistent prayer and not something we must drum up on our own.

Questions

Persistent Prayer

“The only way to not lose heart in this the very last day in human history as we know it, is to persistently and tenaciously pray.” ~ Pastor JD

- 1) Read Luke 18:1-7. Do these verses imply that God gets frustrated with our persistent prayers?
- 2) Pastor JD said the point of the parable is that if this ungodly, unjust judge will mete out justice, how much more will God. How can that give us comfort?
- 3) How can persistent prayer sustain our hope?

“So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.” (Luke 11:9-10)

- 4) Have you been taught that if you ask more than once that it's a demonstration of your lack of faith?

Faith on Earth

Luke 18:8: “Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?”

- 1) When Jesus returns, will you be found as a person of faith?
- 2) Give examples of the news you encounter that most shakes your faith.

- 3) How can prayer over those things keep you grounded in your faith?

This is a favorite verse of mine (Lisa's). When our strength is waning (Revelation 3:8), it's a great reminder during our wait that we have every reason to be of good courage and not lose heart.

"I would have lost heart, unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart; wait, I say, on the Lord!" (Psalm 27: 13-14)

Perilous Times

"And I want you to know that the only way you're going to survive, let alone thrive in these perilous times, is to pray so you don't lose heart because it's going to get really bad, so bad that it will be like it was in the days of Noah." ~ Pastor JD

- 1) What was the world like when you were a child and teenager?
- 2) Did you ever think you would see the world become this evil?
- 3) How can we brace ourselves for the possibility that we may see even more perilous times?

The 2023 Prayer

Based on the unspeakable evil in the present, Pastor JD reminded us that the way we pray today cannot be the same as we prayed in the past.

- 1) How do people pray when times are good? Give examples.
- 2) What do 2023 prayers need to look like in light of what we know are perilous times?

Personal Prayer

- 1) Do you feel you spend enough time in pointed prayer, noting specifics, or are your prayers often more general in nature?
- 2) Is prayer for you sometimes a "got-to" instead of a "get-to"?
- 3) Does prayer often feel complicated rather than a simple conversation between Father and child?
- 4) Rather than seeking God through prayer first, do you often call upon family and friends in your time of need?
- 5) What is God's invitation in Matthew 11:28, and how does it apply to time spent in prayer?

Power of Prayer

Pastor JD said that the deciding factor in the devil's defeat is prayer, which is why, when you start to pray, all hell breaks loose.

- 1) If the enemy is hell-bent on preventing you from prayer, what does that say about the power of prayer?
- 2) What are some ways the enemy attacks your prayer life to limit your prayers?
- 3) What would it take for your prayer life to match the intensity of the days in which we are living?
- 4) Have you ever been so distraught and unable to utter a word that you prayed with what Pastor JD called "liquid prayers?"
- 5) Because the disciples had seen the power of prayer in Jesus' life, in Luke 11:1, they asked for Him to teach them to pray, not to preach or teach. If you struggle with your prayer life, have you ever specifically asked that He teach you to pray so that your prayers will be more powerful?

James 5:16 says, "The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much." Intentional prayer matters. The section below is based on the categories of specific prayer JD suggested. If you want the chart he provided along with the week's transcript, it can be found [here](#).

1. Mounting adverse events/death from injection
God's mercy and deliverance from the perilous deaths and illnesses (Psalm 91)
2. Looming collapse of the global economy
God's provision and sustenance from financial fears and worries (Matthew 6:19-34)
3. Impending threats of wars with current wars
God's protection from and warning that the time of the end is now (Matthew 24:4-8, Ezekiel 38)
4. Alarming LGBTQ/Transgenderism acceptance
God's kindness and forgiveness leading to repentance and salvation (Romans 2:4, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11)
5. Increasing spraying and poisoning of our skies
God's reward for us and destruction of those who destroy the earth (Revelation 11:18)
6. Confusing and deceiving political theater
God's wisdom and truth in the midst of deceptive, powerful delusion (2 Thessalonians 2)
7. Intensifying personal trials for Christians

God's strength and power to persevere in effectual, persistent prayer (Luke 18:1-8, James 5:16)