

Contending

ENGAGING IN
REVOLUTIONARY PRAYER

PART TWO – February 3, 2019

- Prayer is always meant to be revolutionary: a spiritual activity that causes radical change.
- Prayer is always a declaration of the revolutionary truth: Jesus is Lord!

But if God is truly sovereign, won't He just do what He's going to do anyway? If Jesus is Lord over all things, why would my prayer make any difference?

Why pray?

1. **Prayer** _____ **the** _____. God's Word shows us over and over that prayer reshapes what is happening in the world. In prayer we both release and receive God's will "on earth, as it is in heaven."

2 Corinthians 1:8-11 We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about the hardships we suffered in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired even of life. Indeed, in our hearts we felt the sentence of death. But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead. He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will continue to deliver us, as you help us by your prayers. Then many will give thanks on our behalf for the gracious favor granted us in answer to the prayers of many.

- Sometimes the future is reshaped through _____.
- Sometimes the future is reshaped through _____ in _____.

2. **Prayer is our** _____ **act of** _____. Prayer lays the faith-foundation for all else we'll do. In prayer our hope is reignited as we're reminded of God's promise, and we receive vision and empowerment to put our faith into action.

"You can do more than pray after you have prayed, but you cannot do more than pray until you have prayed." - S.D. Gordon

Acts 4:24-31 When they heard the (threatening) report, all the believers lifted their voices together in prayer to God: "O Sovereign Lord, Creator of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them ... now, O Lord, hear their threats, and give us, your servants, great boldness in preaching your word. Stretch out your hand with healing power; may miraculous signs and wonders be done through the name of your holy servant Jesus." After this prayer, the meeting place shook, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. Then they preached the word of God with boldness.