

# *Week Three*

## ***The Best is Yet to Come***

### **The Door of Intimacy-Prayer**

When you hear us talking about this campaign, you hear a lot of talk about, “walking through doors.” That sounds like us taking control. And sometimes that’s the way we treat prayer, too. Prayer is time where I get to talk and God will listen to me. That’s true, but let’s also listen to these words—Hebrews 4:14-16 Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Who initiates things in our relationship with God? Jesus. He’s the one who came down to earth to understand us. He’s the one who created us. He’s the one who gives us forgiveness and establishes a relationship with us, so that we have any basis for prayer at all. So it’s God who starts things, and prayer is a chance for us to actively respond. So how can we rightly use this gift here at Messiah?

First, make this campaign part of your prayer life. Think of all the avenues for prayer. You can pray for the people leading the campaign. Those who are planning the building. Those leading service efforts as we reach out into the community. There are many more!

But you also need to be praying for yourself. After all, without spending some serious time with God in prayer, how will you know where you fit into this whole campaign? Pray about what you should give. How you can get involved with your time and energy. Pray for God to encourage you throughout this effort.

Prayer, while active, is really ultimately about trusting God. So, as you move forward in life, and as we move into this campaign, pray expecting and inviting God into the process. Some answers may be unexpected miracles, while others might trouble us for a while, but in prayer we get a chance to be active in turning things over to the God. What a wonderful gift!