

From: Hood County Pastor Council <business=pastorcouncil.org@mail28.atl111.rsgsv.net> on behalf of Hood County Pastor Council <business@pastorcouncil.org>
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ONE NATION UNDER GOD Devotional

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Accepted in Jesus

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. **Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.**

Hebrews 4:14-16(ESV)

Reflections

It is easy to think we are number one in God’s eyes. While every Christian is “chosen, holy, and loved” (Col 3:12), it is good and glorious that Jesus is the Father’s favorite. The Son is the Father’s favorite because the two share the same nature and because of the Son’s perfect love for, dependence on, and obedience to the Father. Jesus is fully God and perfect in his love for

Challenge

The Father is pleased with His Son (Matthew 3:17; Ephesians 1:15-23). The Father is pleased to make

the Father. The Father loves to listen to the Son He loves.

You may want to sit down for the next part. Apart from the Son, the Father does not listen to us. Isaiah puts our prayer problem in stark terms, “your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear” (Isa 59:2).

The Father does not listen to us until our separation, caused by sin, is healed. We each need to be restored to the Father. We need to become children of God. Since it is true that the Father loves to listen to his children pray, we need to make every effort to ensure we are children of God. Listen to John 1:11-12, “He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him. But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, he gave the right to become children of God.” The Father listens to those people who depend on the Son. We depend on Christ for our forgiveness, our life, and our righteousness. We depend on the Son to bring us to the Father.

Why does the Father listen to us? Why does God love to hear our prayers? We are welcomed by the Father all because of the Son. Do not let your past mistakes, failures, and sins keep you from prayer. Pray to the Father in Jesus’ name. Pray in dependence on Jesus Christ who makes you a child of God. Jesus gives you His Sonship. Because of Jesus, the Father loves to hear our prayers (Heb. 14-16).

Prayer

God, our Father, we have no rights to claim. You should not listen to or pay attention to us. You are God and we are not. You are holy and we are not. Our sins have made a separation. But Christ is our reconciliation. Praise God for the cross! We come to You in Jesus’ name. We come to You according to His work, His cross, and His resurrection. Thank you, Father, for listening to my prayers. Thank you, Father, for giving me Your Son so that right now I can ask for the grace and mercy I need for this day.

Talk to the Father about your needs...

us His children through dependence on the Son (John 1:12). The Son is pleased to bring us to the Father (Hebrews 4:14-16).

For Discussion

Why would the Father listen to the Son?

Why would God, the Creator of the universe, listen to you?

Are you more likely to think the Father hears you because you do the right things? Or, are you more likely to think the Father does not hear you because you do the wrong things?

Why is Jesus necessary for prayer?



Paul Duncan is a Christian, husband, father, and pastor of Mambrino Baptist Church.

Website:
www.mambrino.org

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