



Sermon Outline
February 14, 2016
Pastor Bryan Myers

The Big Prayer

Jonah 2:1-10

**Last week we saw how God decided
Jonah needed a _____.**

**Jonah spent three days and three night
inside the _____ of a huge fish.**

Jonah 2:1 - From inside the fish Jonah prayed to the Lord his God.

**Desperate times _____
desperate prayers.**

Jonah 2:2a - He said: "In my distress I called to the Lord, and he answered me.

**The miracle of prayer is not that we get to
talk to God, but that He _____.**

*In order to pray, you might need to unlearn the non-personal,
non-real praying that you've become familiar with.*

**We seem to have this propensity toward
making prayer about saying the right thing the
_____.**

Matthew 6:5-6a - And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen.

Why doesn't prayer just happen?

1) It requires concentration and _____

1 Peter 4:7b – Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray.

Luke 5:16 – But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places where He prayed.

2) Prayer often appears _____

**3) We don't like it when God answers
_____ or _____.**

If you say: I believed in God, I trusted God, and He didn't come through - You only trusted God to meet your agenda. Tim Keller

Three critical features of Jonah's prayer:

1) He assessed and _____

2) He admitted only _____ could save him

3) He responded to grace with _____

When people are saved by grace, worship happens.

**There is a reason it's called a
_____ of praise.**

Hebrews 13:15 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name.

To sincerely worship we have to give up:

* _____ — *You shouldn't let what's wrong with you keep you from worshipping what's right about God.*

* _____ — *We often take ourselves too seriously and God not seriously enough.*

**Our greatest challenge to prayer – it's
not very often that we are _____.**