
WEEK OF PRAYER 2018

digging

✝ INTO THE
TREASURES OF GOD'S HEART
AS HE HAS PROMISED IN HIS

word

CRESTVIEW

As we wrap up another year and look into a new one, we are continuing a rhythm that we observe as a church: a week of prayer together. To put it simply: we are starting the year by pursuing God together. What is prayer? I don't think we can improve on this amazing definition from John Bunyan (author of *A Pilgrim's Progress*): *"A sincere, sensible, affectionate pouring out of the heart or soul to God, through Christ, in the strength and assistance of the Spirit, for such things as God has promised, or according to His Word, for the good of the church, with submission in faith to the will of God."* I know that's a mouthful (or brainful) but it gets to the heart of prayer. God answers the genuine prayers of His children.

For our purposes in this week, we are thinking about this theme of digging into the treasures of God's heart, as He's promised in His Word. God is for us and not against us. The war is whether or not we believe that as His people. So, this week of prayer will be plunging the depths of God's heart into promises like this, that we may step out together in faith in this coming year. For our devotional this week, we'll be digging into the treasures of God's heart by thinking of some Biblical reasons for prayer:

- 1) to depend upon Him
- 2) to purify the desires of our hearts
- 3) to be content with whatever our Father provides
- 4) to appreciate more deeply God's generosity and faithfulness to us
- 5) to enjoy without guilt His many gifts
- 6) to trust God to provide our daily needs and never let us down

Too often, *"we have not because we ask not, or ask with wrong motives to spend it on ourselves."* So, our hope is to dig into these reasons and reach the treasures that await us in God's heart.

Will you join me and others this week as we pray together.



Pastor Phil

