

Prayer Notes:

I can talk to God about:

I praise God for:

I'm sorry for:

I'm thankful for:

I ask God for:

Let us Pray:

Dear God,

Help me to remember to talk to you even when I think things are silly. Let me know that you will always answer our prayers, even if we don't get the answer we want or expect.

Amen



Print this out, stick it onto thin card and then cut out and glue together the cube.

Roll the cube and pray whatever lands face up!

Prayer cube

May God's blessing surround you each day.

As we trust Him and walk in His way;

May His presence within,

Guard and keep us from sin;

Go in peace, go in joy, go in love.

**MINSTER BETHEL
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
(MBCC)**

24/05/2020

Matthias



Prayer

If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.'

Matthew 21:22

Good morning and welcome to this 9th unprecedented church service.

Today we are going to be thinking about when Matthias was chosen to join the disciples through prayer.

I've chosen the song this week What a Friend We have in Jesus; (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8SCorW9r_Is) :

What a friend we have in Jesus
All our sins and griefs to bear
And what a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer

Oh, what peace we often forfeit
Oh, what needless pain we bear
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged
Take it to the Lord in prayer

Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness
Take it to the Lord in prayer



Our reading/story today is taken from Acts 1:12-26:

MATTHIAS CHOSEN TO REPLACE JUDAS

Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day's walk from the city. When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Those present were Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (a group numbering about a hundred and twenty) and said, "Brothers and sisters, the Scripture had to be fulfilled in which the Holy Spirit spoke long ago through David concerning Judas, who served as guide for those who arrested Jesus. He was one of our number and shared in our ministry."

(With the payment he received for his wickedness, Judas bought a field; there he fell headlong, his body burst open and all his intestines spilled out. Everyone in Jerusalem heard about this, so they called that field in their language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) "For," said Peter, "it is written in the Book of Psalms:

"May his place be deserted;
let there be no one to dwell in it,
and,

"May another take his place of leadership."

Therefore it is necessary to choose one of the men who have been with us the whole time the Lord Jesus was living among us, beginning from John's baptism to the time when Jesus was taken up from us. For one of these must become a witness with us of his resurrection."

So they nominated two men: Joseph called Barsabbas (also known as Justus) and Matthias. Then they prayed, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which of these two you have chosen to take over this apostolic ministry, which Judas left to go where he belongs." Then they cast lots, and the lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the eleven apostles.

In this passage we see that the disciples had to make a really important decision, as to who would join them. To make this decision they prayed... "show us which of these two you have chosen"... Like the disciples we need to ask God to help us as we make decisions, large or small.

A really funny thing happened to my mum in Jersey recently. She was invited to two BBQs in two garden's at the same time (social distancing of course). She didn't want to upset either person so had decided she'd politely decline both. Then she remembered to ask God for help, even though it seemed a really silly thing. She asked God to send a storm so she couldn't go to either and upset anyone. She woke up the next morning to find a text on her phone telling her due to unforeseen circumstances one of the BBQs had been moved to the following afternoon. God hadn't given her the storm she requested, He hadn't answered her prayer for what she thought she wanted, but He had answered her prayer by solving the situation. We don't always get what we want from prayer, but God always answers if we ask.