

Prayer that Moves God to Act Isaiah 63:15-19

Ask the infinitely exalted God to look down and see your need. (v.15)

This shows us God's infinite splendor, our lowliness, and our need for Jesus.

Prayer like this moves God to act.

Seek to persuade God with powerful reasons. (vv.15-16)

Isaiah says — You are holding back your zeal, might, and compassion from us (v.15), but you are our Father and Redeemer (v.16). But Fathers and Redeemers don't hold back their strength and compassion from their children!

God not only has chosen to have our prayers move Him to act — He has chosen to have our persuasive reasons especially move Him to act.

Express God's absolute sovereignty and your utter dependence. (v.17)

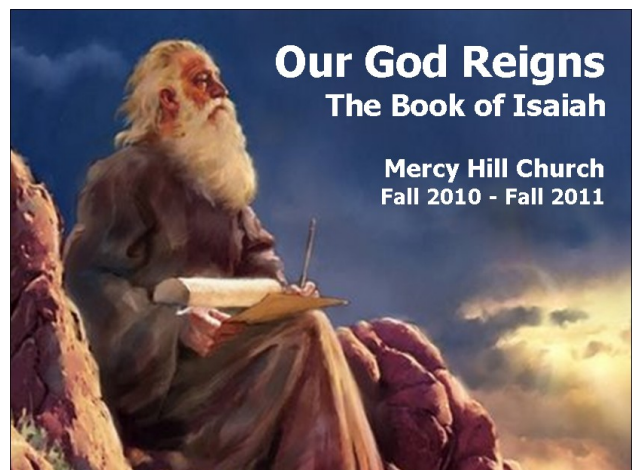
It's powerful to acknowledge that God is in absolute, sovereign control over everything, and that you are completely dependent on Him for everything.

Give God details about your need. (vv.18-19)

It's not that God does not know the details — but when you tell Him the details this will also persuade Him to act.

What happened

In 586 BC God answered Isaiah's prayer.



HOME GROUP DISCUSSION OF SUNDAY'S TEACHING

(Sometimes in our home groups we talk about Sunday's teaching, so we can work together on responding to God's Word — asking questions, sharing insights, talking together.)

What was the Holy Spirit saying to you Sunday through this passage?

What questions, ideas, objections, encouragements did you come away with?

When you pray, how aware are you of God's infinite splendor? Or your lowliness? Of your need for Jesus? Why or why not?

How intentional are you about persuading God with powerful reasons? Did this passage change you in this area? Why or why not?

Do you agree that God has chosen to have our persuasive reasons especially move Him to act? Why or why not?

When you pray how much are you feeling God's absolute sovereignty and your utter dependency? What difference would this make?

Why is it important to give God the details of your need? Is that something you usually do?

What's your take-away from this message? What are you going to do differently? When? How?

Share prayer requests that come up in the discussion, jot them down below, and pray for each other.

