

# PRAY TO THE SOVEREIGN LORD

ACTS 4:23–31

MAY 5, 2024

I. Pray Together with Friends (4:23-24; Eph 6:18; Matt 6:9-13)

II. Pray to the Sovereign Lord (4:24-28; Ps 146:5-7; Ps 2:1-2)

III. Pray According to God's Will (4:29-31)

"How comfortable it is to think that you have a God that can do what He pleases; nothing so difficult but He can effect, nothing so strong but He can overrule! You need not dread men, since you have One to restrain them; nor fear devils, since you have One to chain them. Our evils can never be so great to oppress us, as His power is great to deliver us."  
—Stephen Charnock

"To suppose that anything is too great to be comprehended in His control, or anything so minute as to escape His notice; or that the infinitude of particulars can distract His attention, is to forget that God is infinite."  
— Charles Hodge

"There is no attribute more comforting to His children than that of God's Sovereignty. Under the most adverse circumstances, in the most severe trials, they believe that Sovereignty has ordained their afflictions, that Sovereignty overrules them, and that Sovereignty will sanctify them all. There is nothing for which the children ought more earnestly to contend than the doctrine of their Maker over all creation - the Kingship of God over all the works of His own hands—the Throne of God and His right to sit upon that Throne."  
—Charles Spurgeon

WSC Q. 98. What is prayer? A. Prayer is an offering up of our desires unto God, for things agreeable to his will, in the name of Christ, with confession of our sins, and thankful acknowledgment of his mercies.

"Prayer is fundamentally an attitude of dependency on God."  
—A. W. Pink

"God hath in Himself all power to defend you, all wisdom to direct you, all mercy to pardon you, all grace to enrich you, all righteousness to clothe you, all goodness to supply you, and all happiness to crown you."  
—Thomas Brooks

## Reflection and Application Questions (for personal reflection and family conversation):

1. What is an example of an event that shook the very foundation of your life? How did you respond?
2. What does it look like to recognize and trust in the sovereignty of God?
3. What is the value of praying together with others?
4. Explain the difference between praying for a change in circumstances and praying for God to work a change within us? How might this make a difference in something you are praying for today?