

SERMON NOTES

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Prayer is Powerful!

Long ago, primitive people discovered that they could build a fire and by controlling the puffs of smoke, they could communicate over long distances. Later, someone found that they could do the same thing by reflecting sunlight off a shiny object!

Then, in 1844, Samuel Morse proved that you could communicate in code by connecting two electromagnets by wires, and the telegraph was born. In 1876, Alexander Bell sent his voice across those wires and man had a telephone. Within twenty years, Marconi had removed the wires and sent his voice by radio waves. Then, in 1973, Martin Cooper made the first call on a portable cellular phone. And, just two years earlier, a relatively unknown man named Ray Tomlinson sent the first email message over a computer network. Without doubt, man has demonstrated that he has an insatiable appetite to find faster and more accurate ways to communicate.

Unfortunately, in all of man's efforts to "stay in touch", most have never fully realized the greatest communication tool we have ever possessed. It not only travels through space but also through time and dimensions. It is both quick and powerful and has supernatural effects. It's called *prayer*, and it places man in direct contact with God, the Sovereign Lord of all creation.

Thus far, we have looked at *faith* and *grace*, and this morning we complete our study by being reminded that *Prayer is Powerful!*

James 5:16-18

I. The Character of Prayer. (Vs 16b, NIV)

I. Prayer is powerful.

2. Prayer is effectual.

II. The Character of the Prayer!

God expects . . .

1. Righteousness.

2. Earnestness.

3. Faithfulness.