

An Answering Place – Matthew 26:36

1. Last few weeks we have looked at what it might be like to chase a lion in a pit on a snowy day. Last Sunday we looked at discovering God's will by observing the following indicators
 - a. God's will never contradicts God's word – Scripture
 - b. Prayer – When in doubt Ask
 - c. Affirmation of others – Christianity is a team sport
 - d. Divine Drive – when God just won't let go.
2. Too many continue to wonder through life with questions.
 - a. I am convinced God does not want to hide His will from you... He wants you to know and understand
 - b. The Bible cites many examples of the heroes of the faith finding "an answering place" in prayer
 - c. There IS an answering place
 - i. When Jesus was wrestling with the questions of the crucifixion he went to the Garden to pray.
 1. Jesus also went to the mountain to pray (from where he saw his disciples rowing hard against the storm)
 2. Jesus went to the desert to fast and pray
 - ii. David looked, "Unto the hills from whence cometh my help
 - iii. Daniel went to his upper room with his windows open toward Jerusalem
 - iv. Moses went alone to pray many times; to ask questions and receive very specific instructions from God.
3. Too often we act on information without seeking answers from God
 - a. We fail to follow the wisdom of ...
 - i. Measure twice; cut once
 - ii. Look before you leap
 - b. Proverbs 19:2 "It is not good for a soul to be without knowledge."
 - i. Everyone needs to take time apart; to get quiet; and listen for answers as we make decisions that affect our lives and the lives of others.
 - ii. Jesus talked about going to a closet to pray
4. Learn an Old Testament lesson about getting ahead of God
 - a. Numbers 14 – the people initially refused to enter the Promised Land after the spies gave a fearful report. After God destroyed the spies, the people were packed and ready to go the next morning. Moses told them "wait just a minute" but they went forward anyway and they were destroyed. God intended them to go through the desert for 40 years but those who got ahead of God were destroyed.
 - b. They needed an answering place (or at least they needed to listen to the one (Moses) who had been to the answering place!
5. My personal answering places
 - a. Powell River – and My front porch
6. This message is a call back to your answering place
 - a. For you to see your life from heaven's point of view
 - b. As the world spins faster and gets smaller – we need answers that can only come from God
 - c. Where in your life are you acting on information without seeking answers from God first?
 - d. Where is your answering place & how often do you go there.
7. You can find answers... in the answering place to where God is calling you.