

## CONSCIOUS AND INTENTIONAL MINISTRY: MINISTRY TO ME

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thessalonians 5:23

**APRIL 7, 2024** 

## PASTOR MARTIN CHILDS, JR.

TEXT: JOHN 14:13, 14 JOHN 16:23, 24 MATTHEW 7:7, 8 MATTHEW 21:21, 22

TITLE: ANSWERED PRAYERS: IS IT GOD OR IS IT ME?

|      | DDUCTION  |
|------|---|
|      | Sometimes, we must rethink what we previously believed was true   |
| B.   | How does God answer prayers?  |
| C.   | On one end of the spectrum, we cannot rely on God   |
| D.   | On the other end of the spectrum, we do not need God  1. "Speak it into the atmosphere"  2. "Declare it and decree it"  3. "Speak things that be not as though they are" (Romans 4:17)  |
| E.   | Perhaps, we need to rethink what we previously believed regarding answered prayers  |
| WHAT | DID JESUS SAY?  |
| A.   | First, we must be clear regarding what the Word of God says  1. "We must determine what the Word says before we declare what the Word means"  2. "We cannot say, 'Thus says the Lord.' Until we know, 'What says the Lord.'" Dr. Robert Smith |
| B.   | JOHN 14:13, 14  |
|      |   |
| C.   | JOHN 16:23, 24  |
| D.   | MATTHEW 7:7   |
| E.   | MATTHEW 21:21, 22   |
|      | XPECT AN IMMEDIATE ANSWER TO OUR PRAYERS Persistence in Prayer: Example 1 – Luke 11:5-8   |
| В.   | Persistence in Prayer: Example 2 – <b>Luke 18:1-8</b>   |
| C    | Persistence in Prayer is not changing God's mind. Rather, it is increasing our faith  |