Lesson 2: Three Tasks of a Watchman

Discussion Questions:

- In the article, "Watchful Praying," Dave Butts makes this comment: "Watching and praying is a lifestyle focusing on seeing the kingdom of Christ advance and knowing that our prayers are a vital part of what God is doing on planet earth." What do you think about this statement? Have you ever considered that your prayers can be involved in the work of His Kingdom? Why or why not?
- What did you think about Dave's father showing him how to watch the nations by giving him an opportunity to see prophecy fulfilled in Israel? Have you ever had such an experience through watching what God is doing in the nations...and even in our own nation? If so, share your experience.
- In the video Dave said, "In worship we are learning to turn our focus on the Lord and to keep our eyes fixed on Him." What does that look like for you currently? Does worship currently interact with your prayer life? Explain.
- You have been presented with two different ways to watch God. What do you see as the difference between watching God to see what He will do and watching God in worship?
- In the article "Waiting Upon God" the author states that it is very important to note what we do after we pray about an issue or problem that we bring before God. Do you find yourself still anxious, still holding on to the problem...or do you go "watch God" to see what He will do as Habakkuk did? How could this change the way you approach prayer?

- What do you think about the author's comments about God's timing versus our own when it comes to prayer? How did you feel when presented with the reminder that God brought about His promise to send a redeemer for sin thousands of years after he spoke to Satan in the presence of Adam and Eve? ("And I will put enmity between you and the woman and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head and you will strike his heel." - Genesis 3:15).
- What would you need to adjust in your prayer life in order to trust God even when you recognize He might answer your prayer differently than you desire or expect? How do you handle the fact that you might not see or know the answer to some of your prayers until heaven?
- Describe some practical ways you can watch what is happening around you and bring what you see into your prayer life.
- What do you think about being invited by God to stand with Him in prayer and how can this way of looking at prayer affect how you pray?
- How might you utilize your spiritual eyes and ears along with your physical eyes and ears to more effectively pray as you pay attention to what God is doing in the nations?
- What do you think about God's role as "a watcher"? How does it make you feel to know that He watches everything...even you?
- How will you process the insights from Dave's video and the reading you have done for this lesson to inform your prayer life beginning now. Explain any new understanding you have about prayer, or ask any questions that have emerged.