

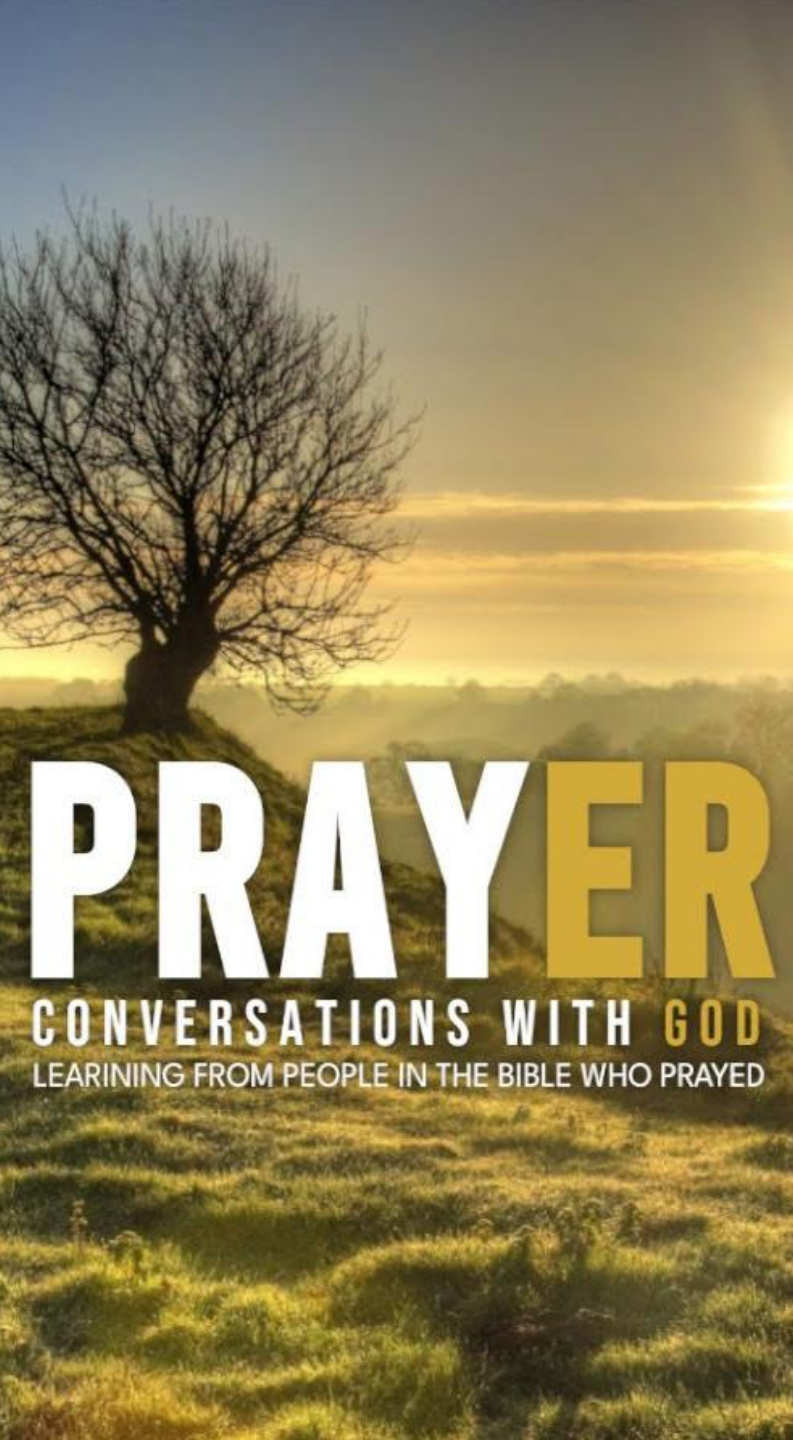
A landscape photograph featuring a bare, dark tree on the left side, silhouetted against a bright, hazy sky. The sun is a large, glowing orb in the upper right, casting a warm, golden light over the scene. The foreground is a grassy field, and the background shows rolling hills under a soft, orange-tinted sky.

UNBELIEVABLE!

PRAYER

CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD

LEARNING FROM PEOPLE IN THE BIBLE WHO PRAYED

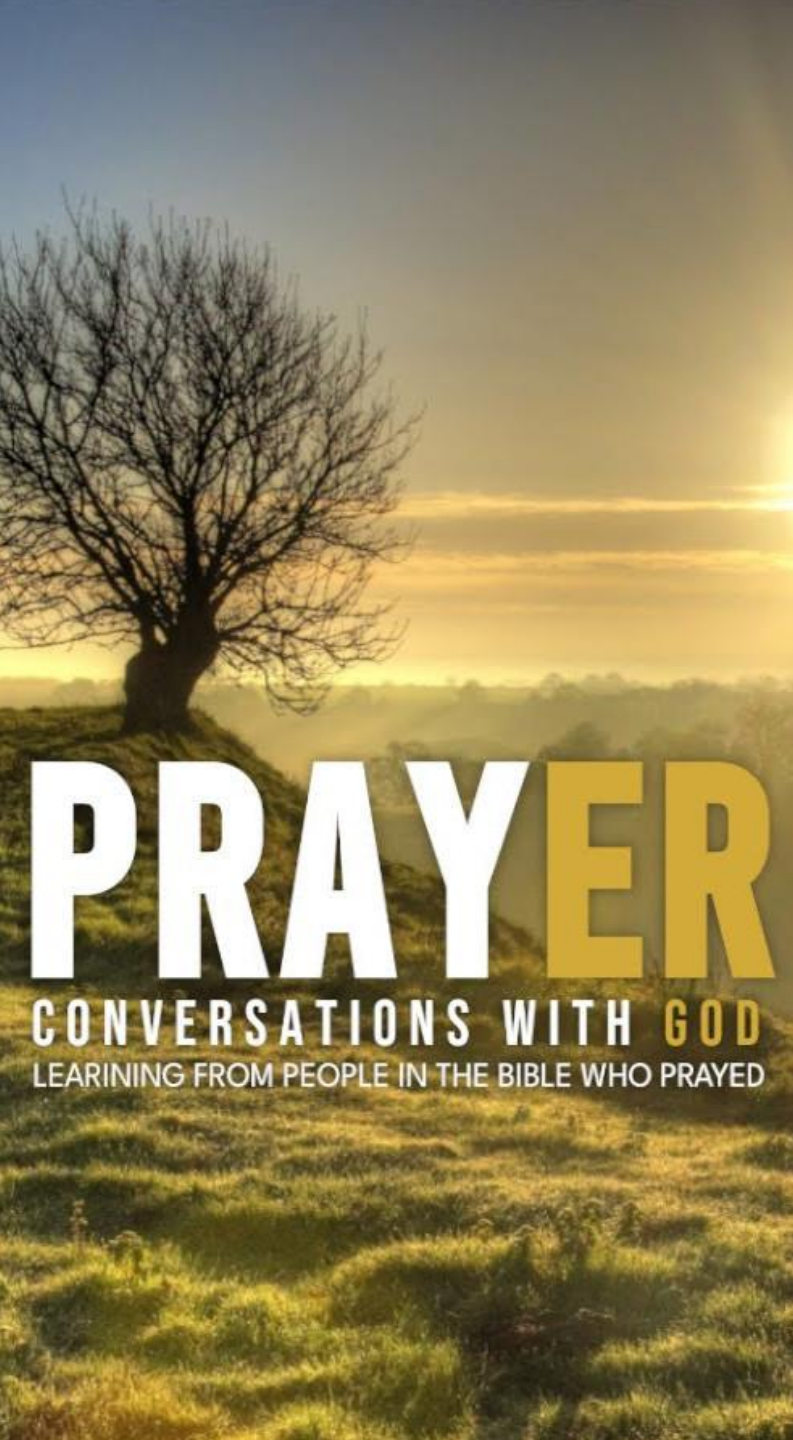


PRAYER

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‘Prayer is a surge of the heart,
it is a simple look turned
toward heaven, it is a cry of
recognition and of love,
embracing both trial and joy.’

Therese
French Carmelite Nun

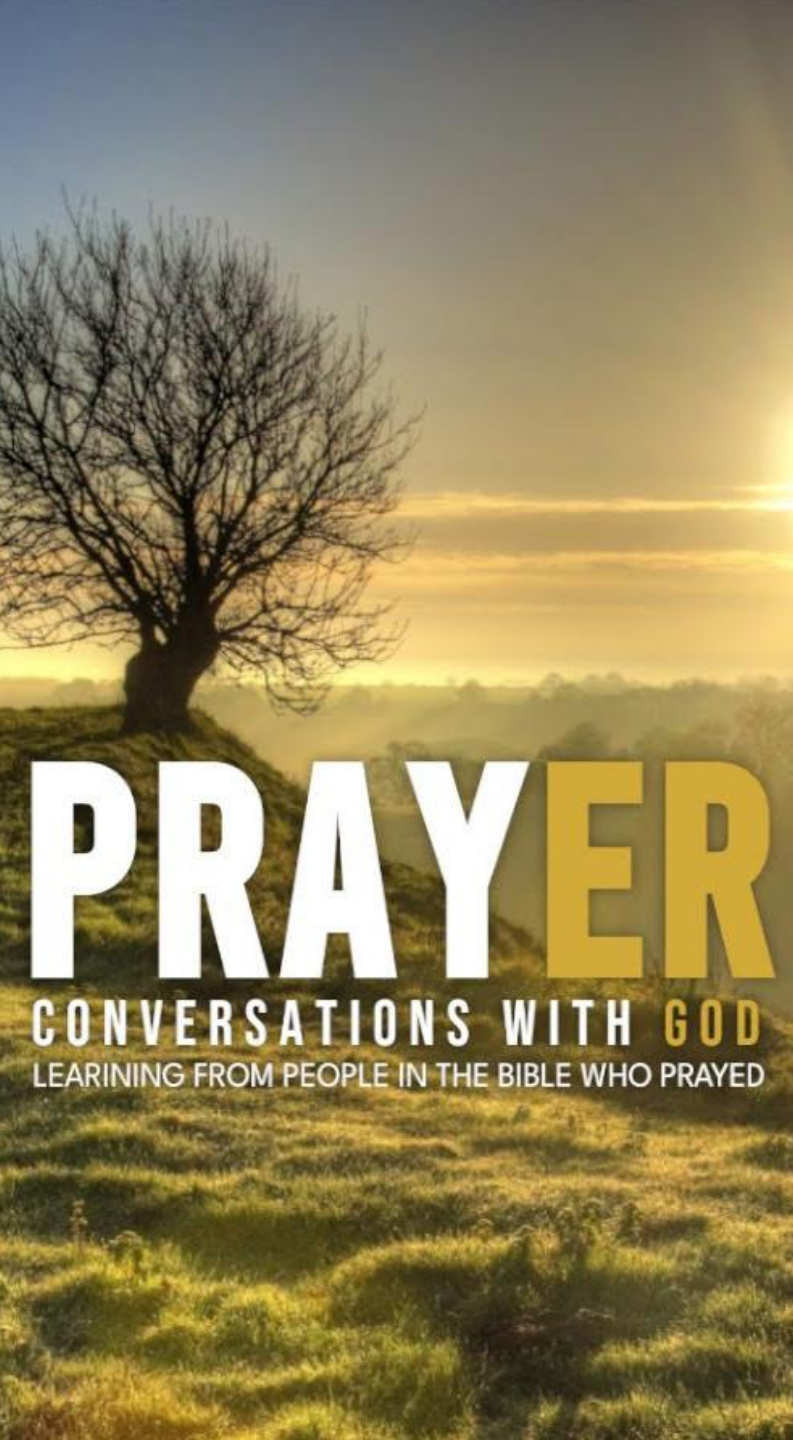


Psalm 5: 1-3 (NIV)

Listen to my words, Lord,
consider my lament.

Hear my cry for help, my King
and my God, for to you I pray.

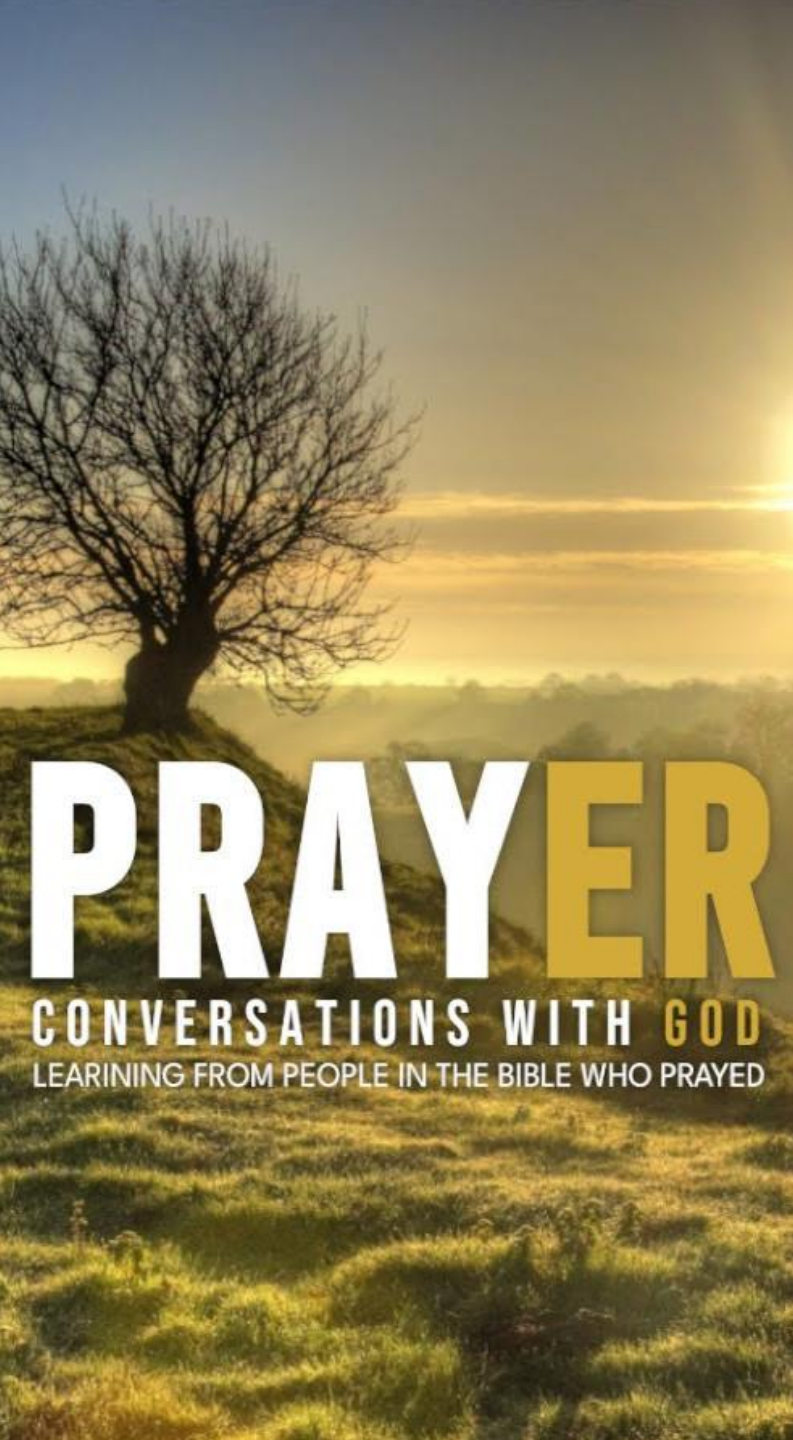
In the morning, Lord, you hear
my voice; in the morning I lay
my requests before you and
wait expectantly.



John Cassian
Christian Theologian
AD 360 – c. 435

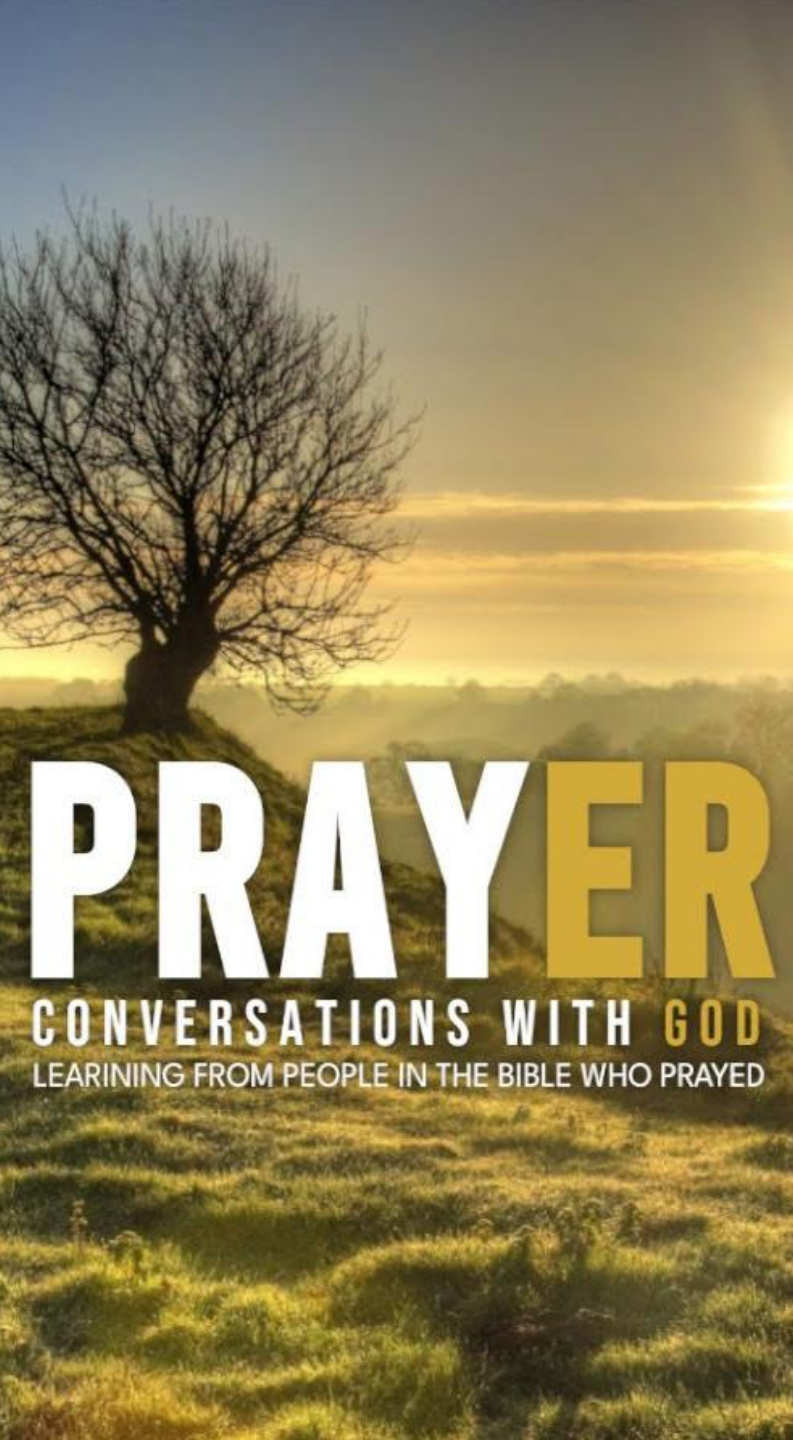
‘A person prays in a certain manner when cheerful and in another when weighed down by sadness or a sense of hopelessness.

When one is flourishing spiritually, prayer is different from when one is oppressed by the extent of one's struggles.’



Acts 12: 1-17 (NIV)

It was about this time that King Herod arrested some who belonged to the church, intending to persecute them. He had James, the brother of John, put to death with the sword. When he saw that this met with approval among the Jews, he proceeded to seize Peter also. This happened during the Festival of Unleavened Bread. After arresting him, he put him in prison, handing him over to be guarded by four squads of four soldiers each.

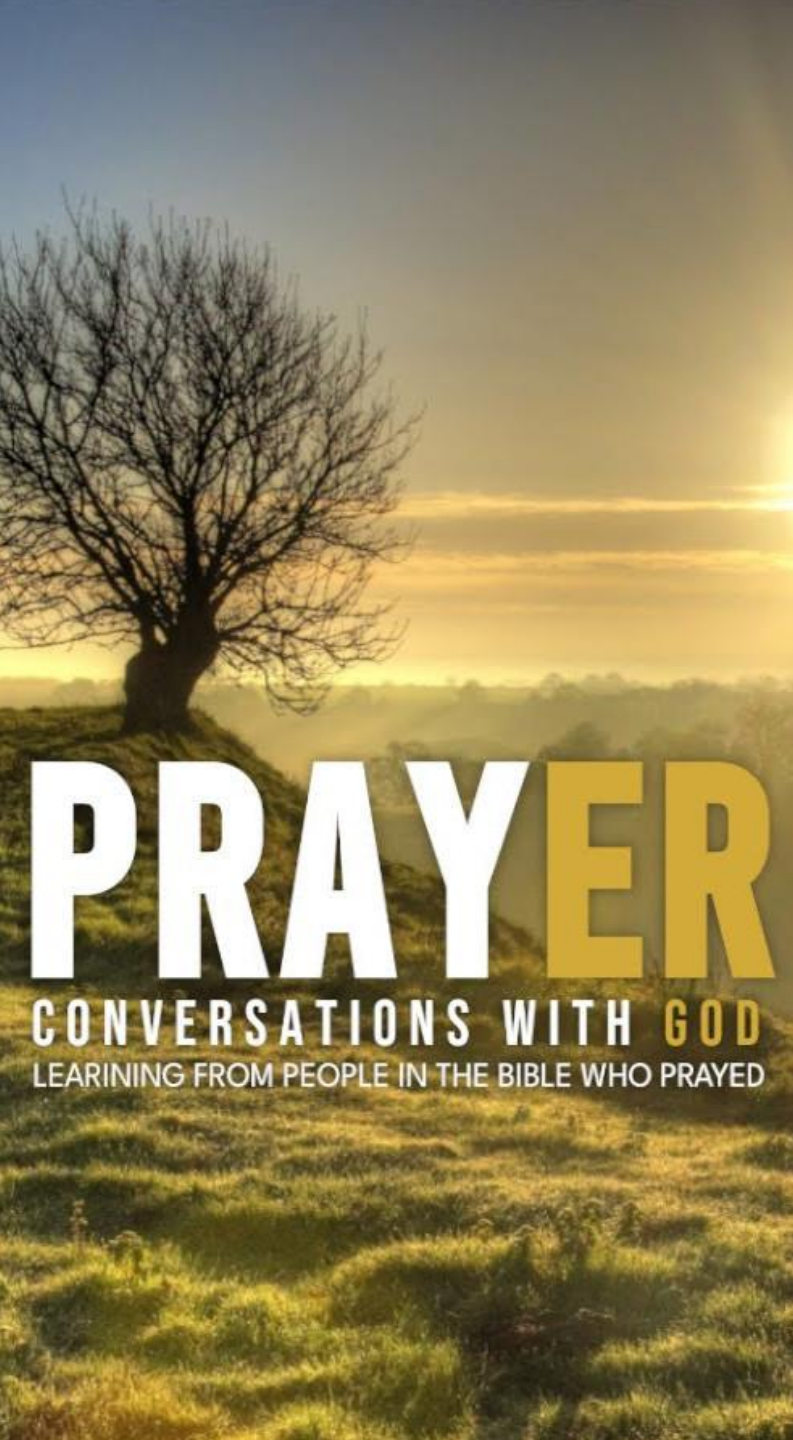


Acts 12: 1-17 (NIV)

Herod intended to bring him out for public trial after the Passover.

So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was earnestly praying to God for him.

The night before Herod was to bring him to trial, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries stood guard at the entrance.



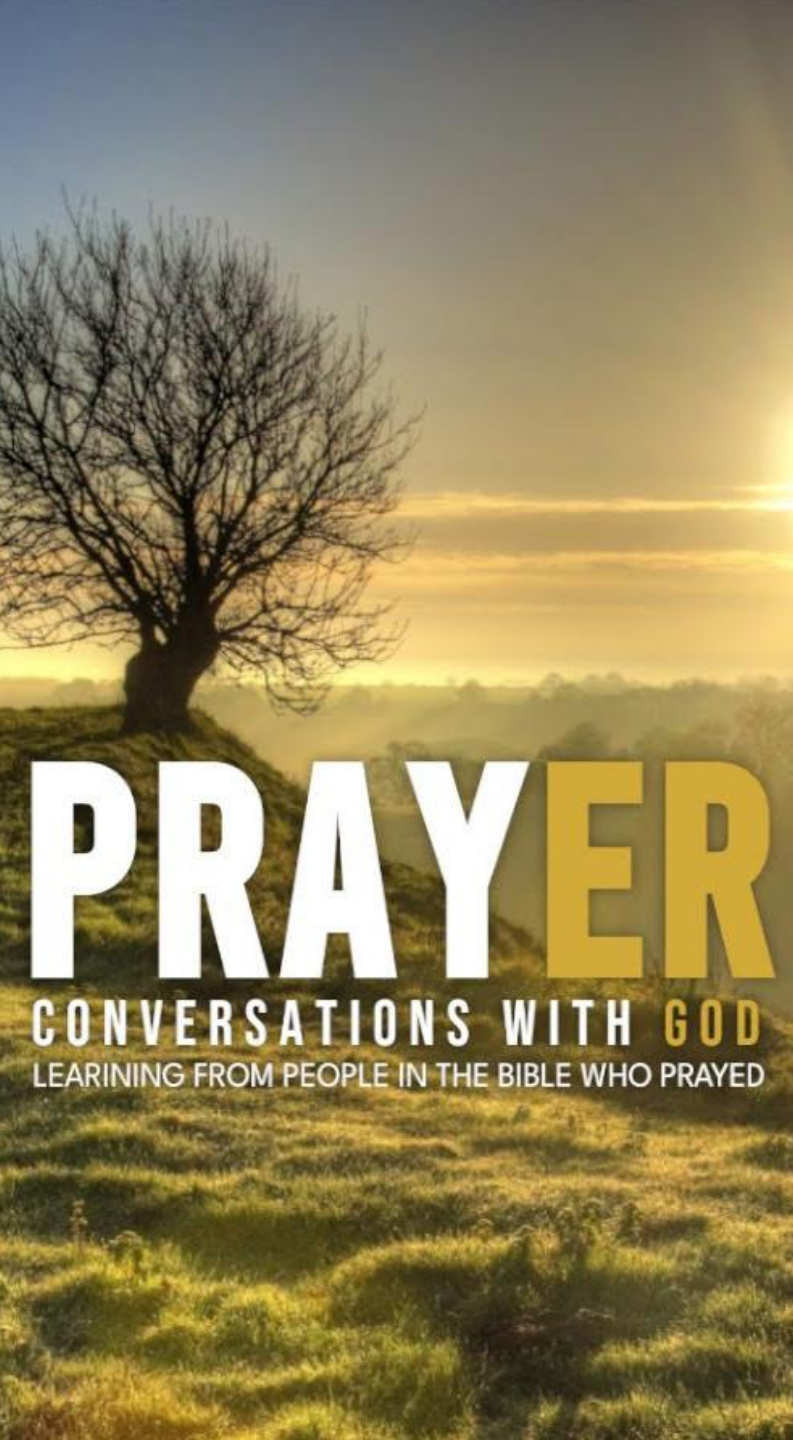
Acts 12: 1-17 (NIV)

Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up.

“Quick, get up!” he said, and the chains fell off Peter’s wrists.

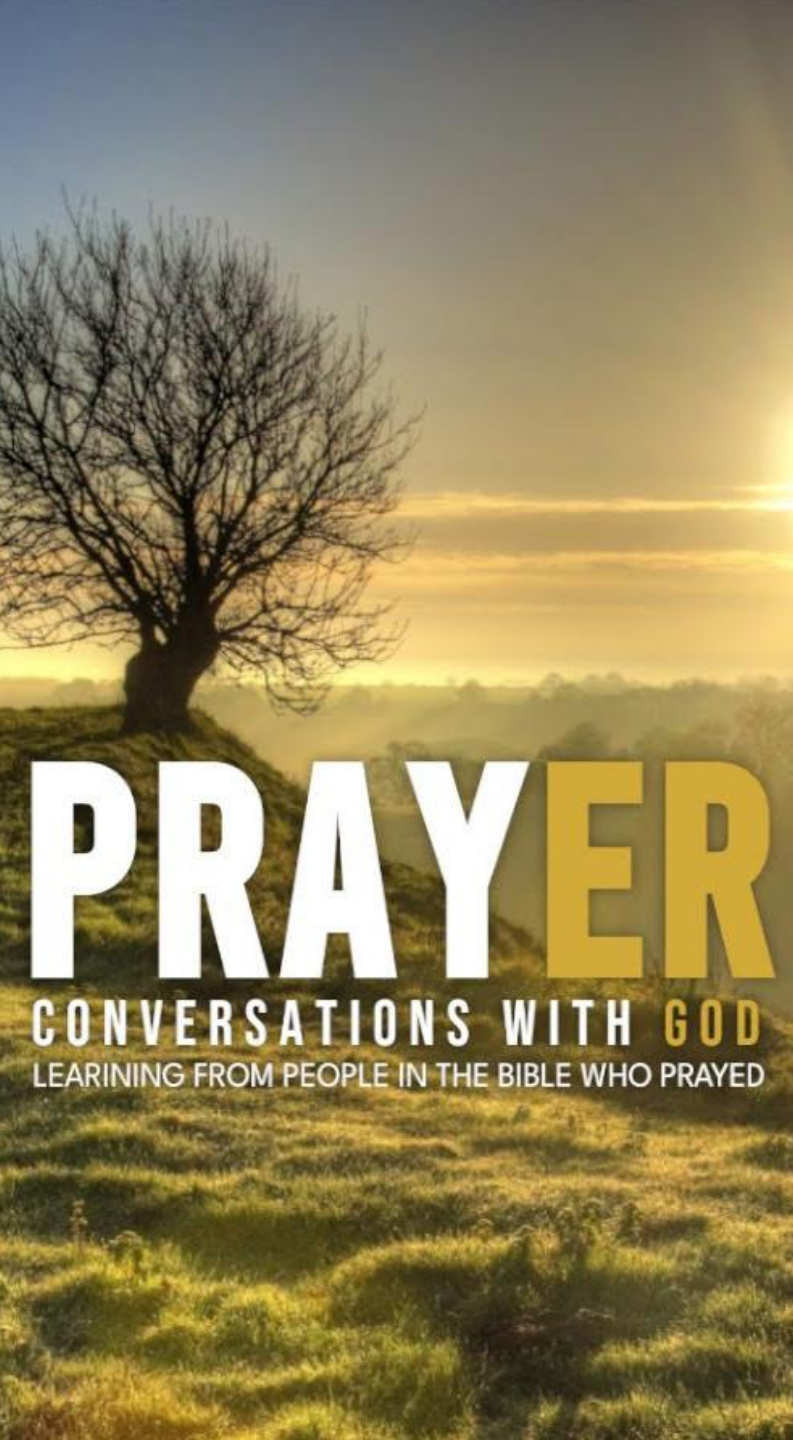
Then the angel said to him, “Put on your clothes and sandals.” And Peter did so.

“Wrap your cloak around you and follow me,” the angel told him.



Acts 12: 1-17 (NIV)

Peter followed him out of the prison, but he had no idea that what the angel was doing was really happening; he thought he was seeing a vision. They passed the first and second guards and came to the iron gate leading to the city. It opened for them by itself, and they went through it. When they had walked the length of one street, suddenly the angel left him.



Acts 12: 1-17 (NIV)

Then Peter came to himself and said, “Now I know without a doubt that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from Herod’s clutches and from everything the Jewish people were hoping would happen.”

When this had dawned on him, he went to the house of Mary the mother of John, also called Mark, where many people had gathered and were praying.

UNBELIEVABLE!

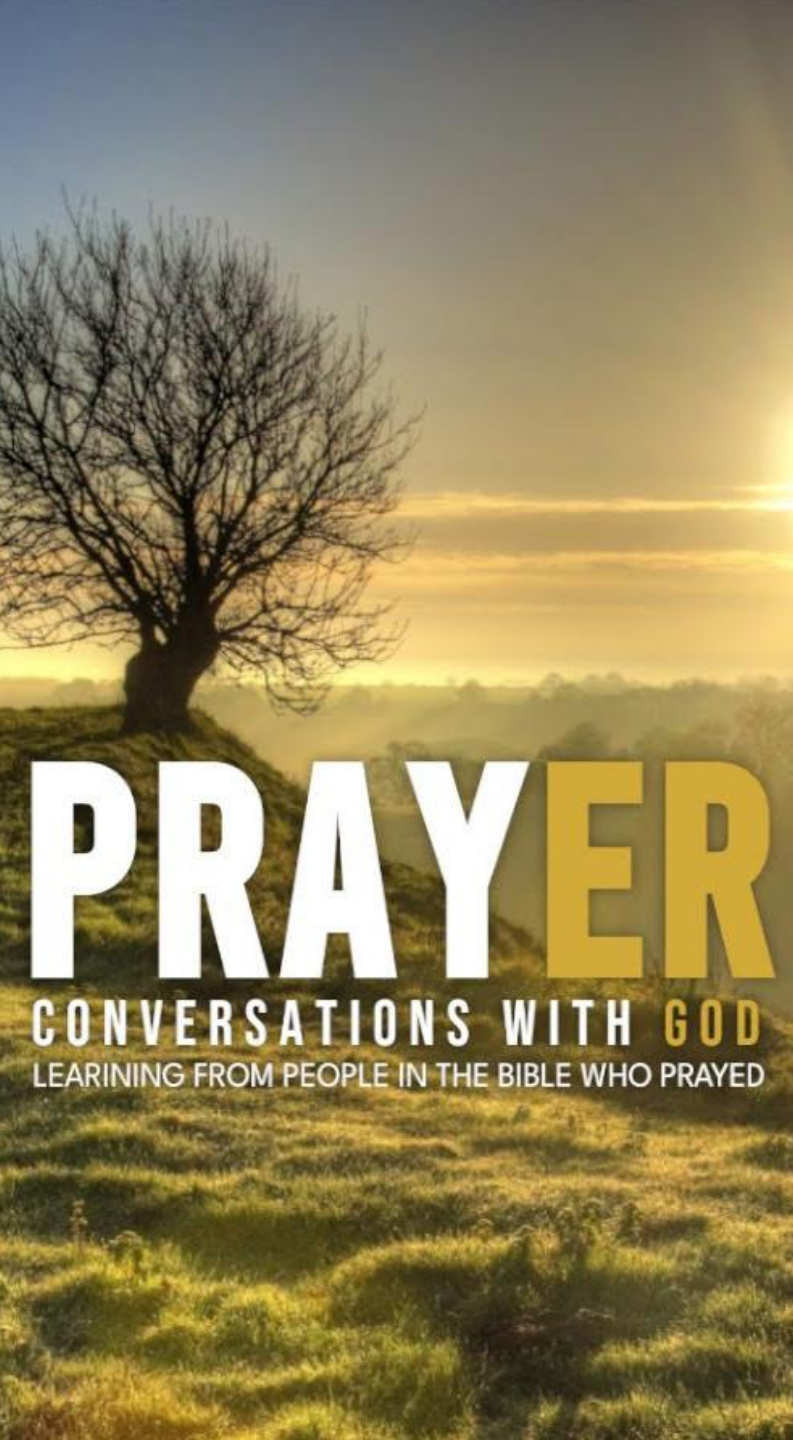
Acts 12: 1-17 (NIV)

Peter knocked at the outer entrance, and a servant named Rhoda came to answer the door. When she recognized Peter's voice, she was so overjoyed she ran back without opening it and exclaimed, "Peter is at the door!"

"You're out of your mind," they told her. When she kept insisting that it was so, they said, "It must be his angel."

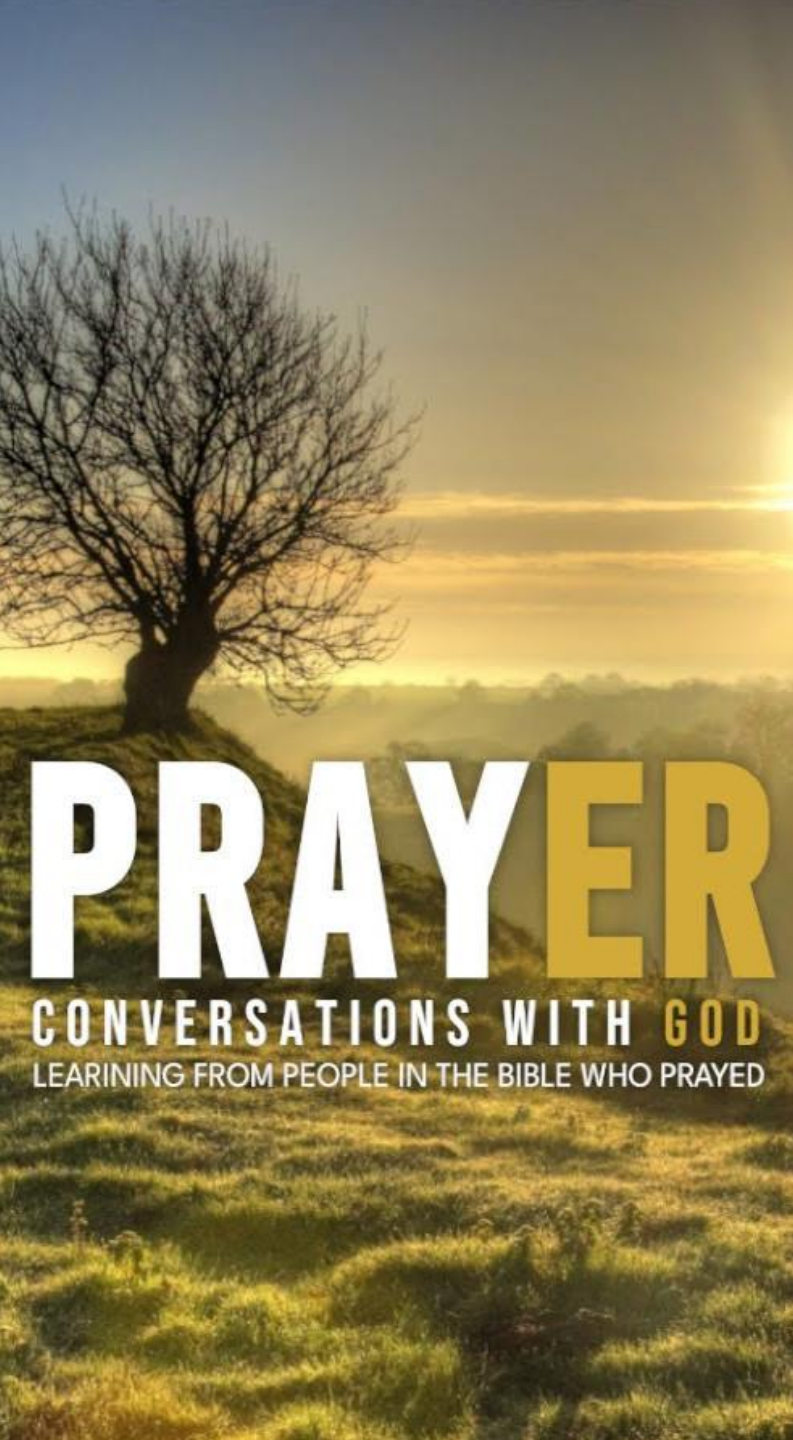
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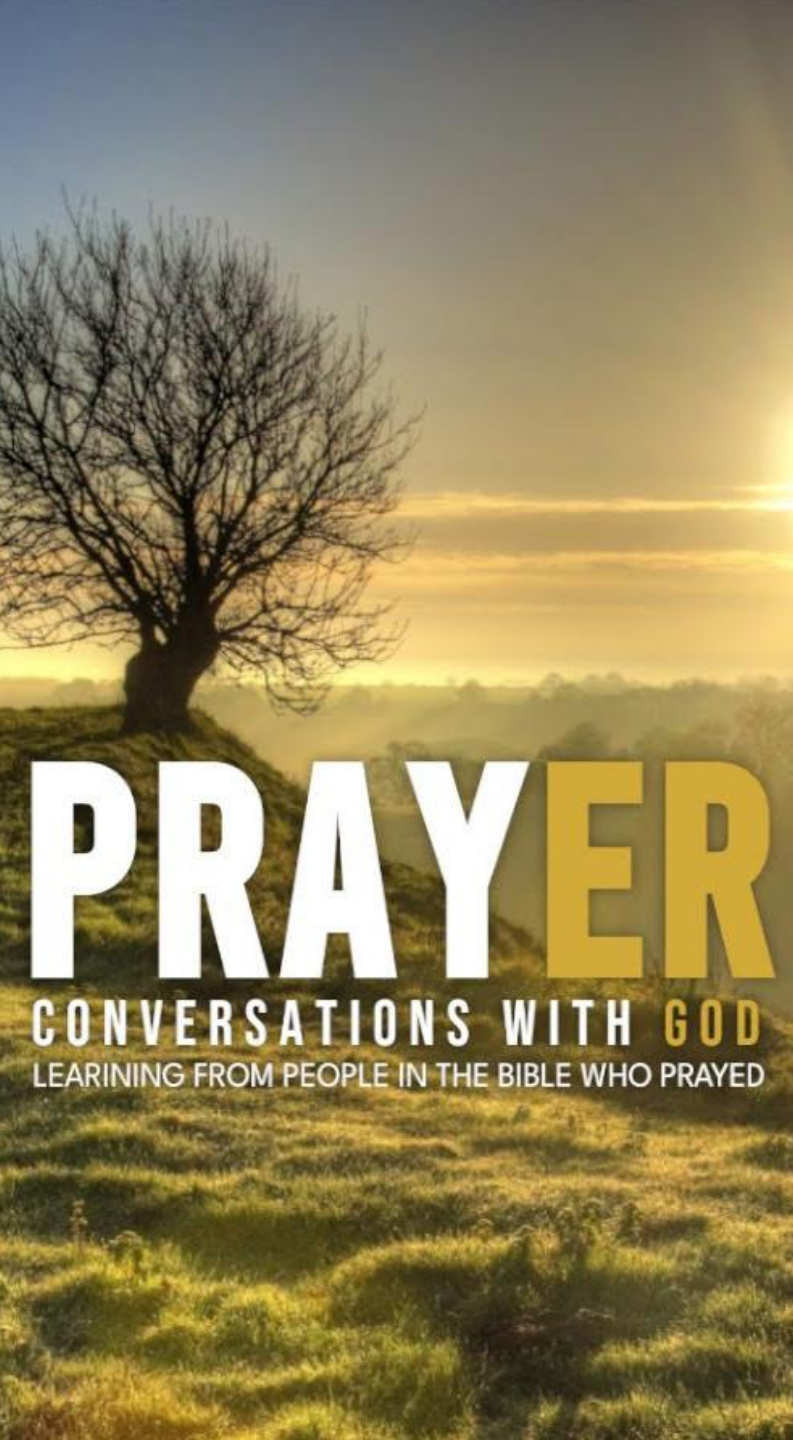


Acts 12: 1-17 (NIV)

But Peter kept on knocking, and when they opened the door and saw him, they were astonished. Peter motioned with his hand for them to be quiet and described how the Lord had brought him out of prison. “Tell James and the other brothers and sisters about this,” he said, and then he left for another place.



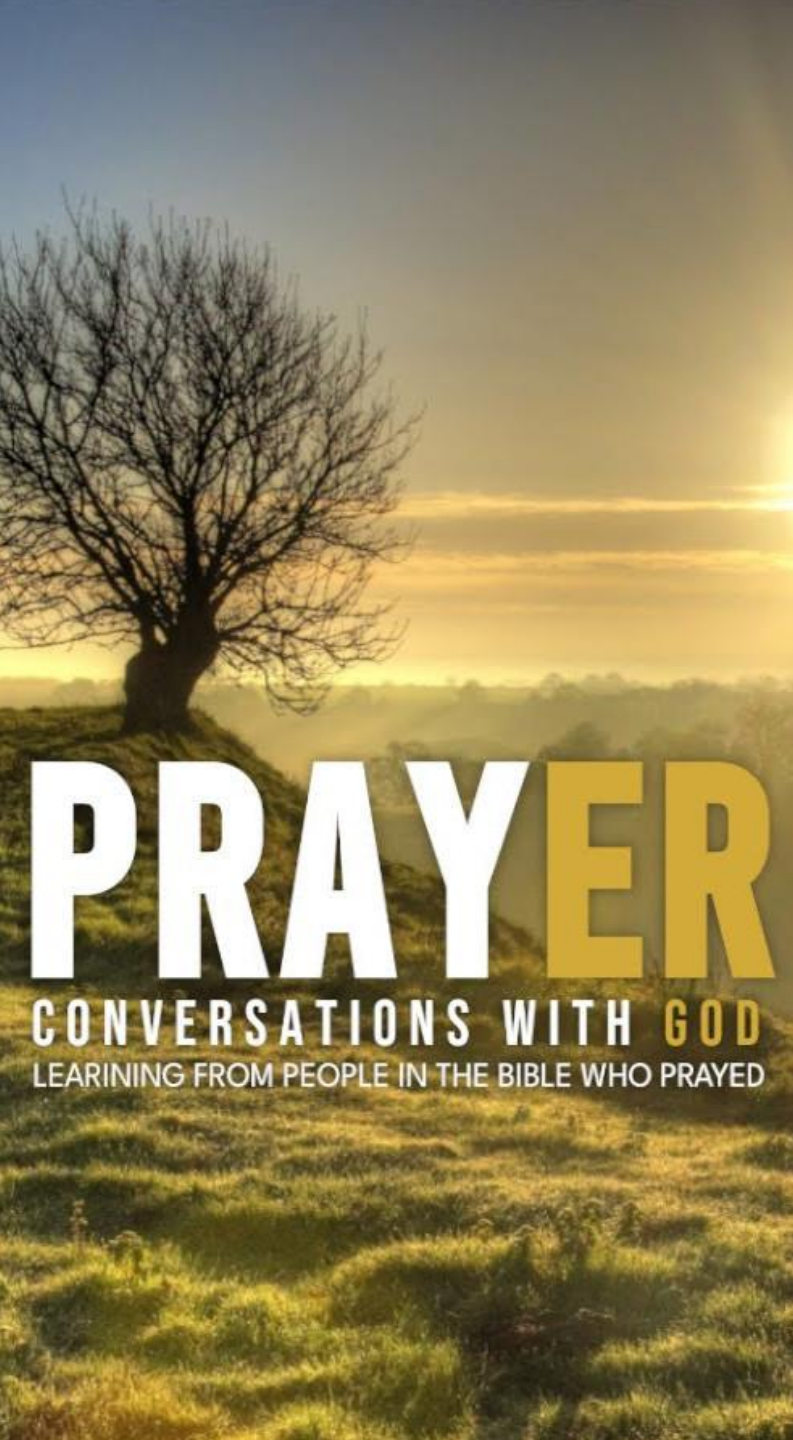
Is this a faithless
prayer meeting
or at
least one of the
dumbest?



‘A generous prayer is never presented in vain; the petition may be refused, but the petitioner is always, I believe, rewarded by some gracious visitation.’

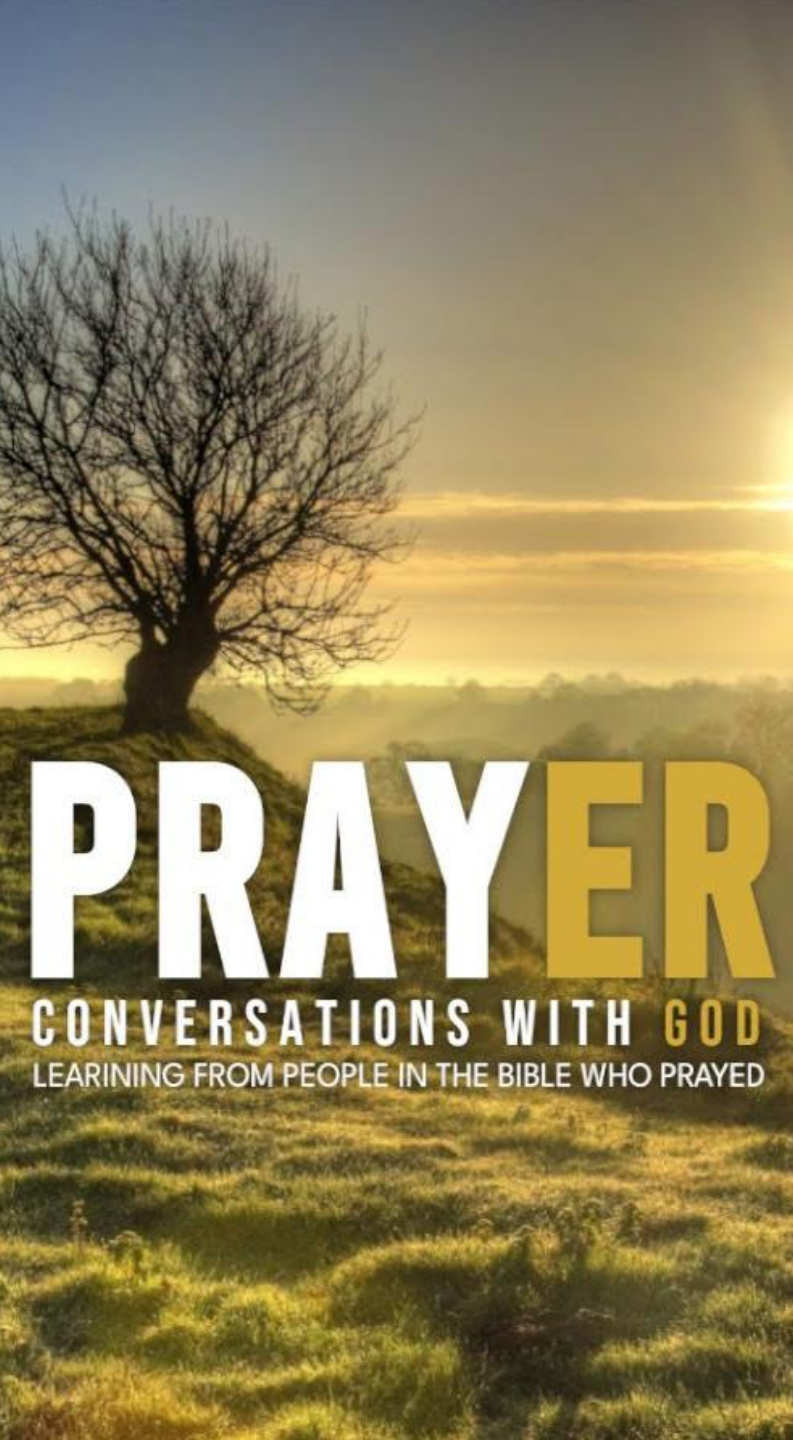
Robert Louis Stevenson
Scottish novelist

For works such as ‘Treasure Island’,
‘Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde’



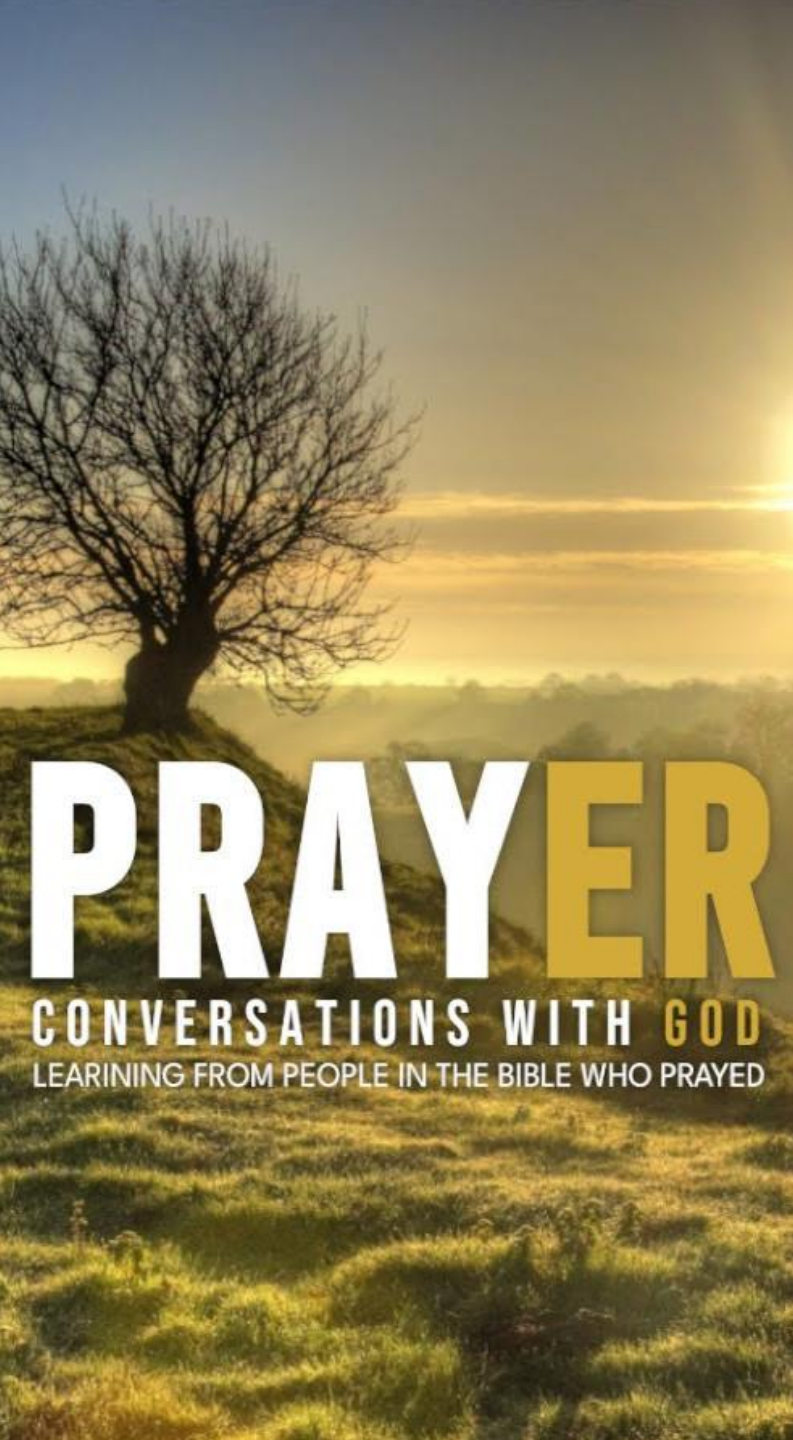
Matthew 6: 5-8 (NIV)

(Jesus said) And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen.

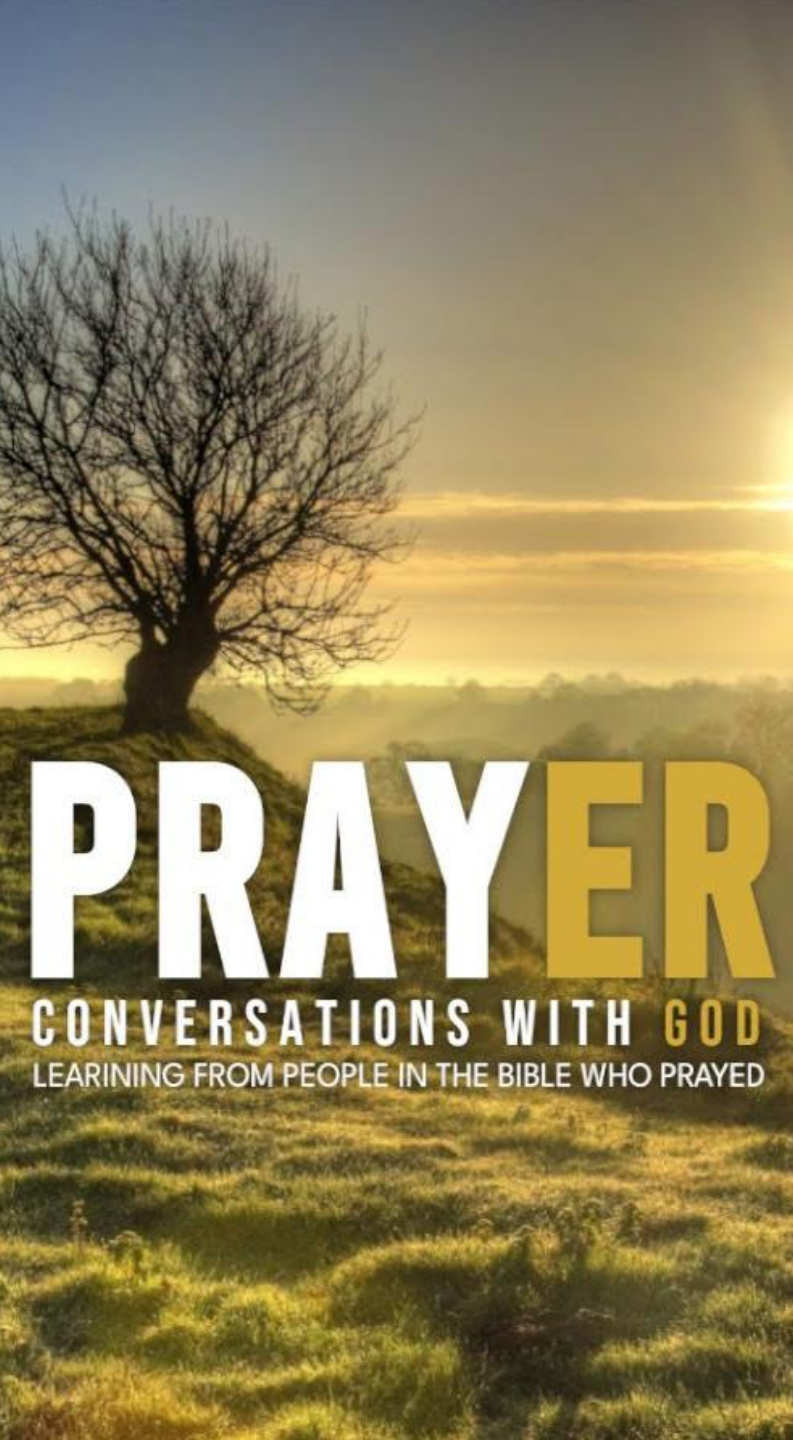


Matthew 6: 5-8 (NIV)

(Jesus said) Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

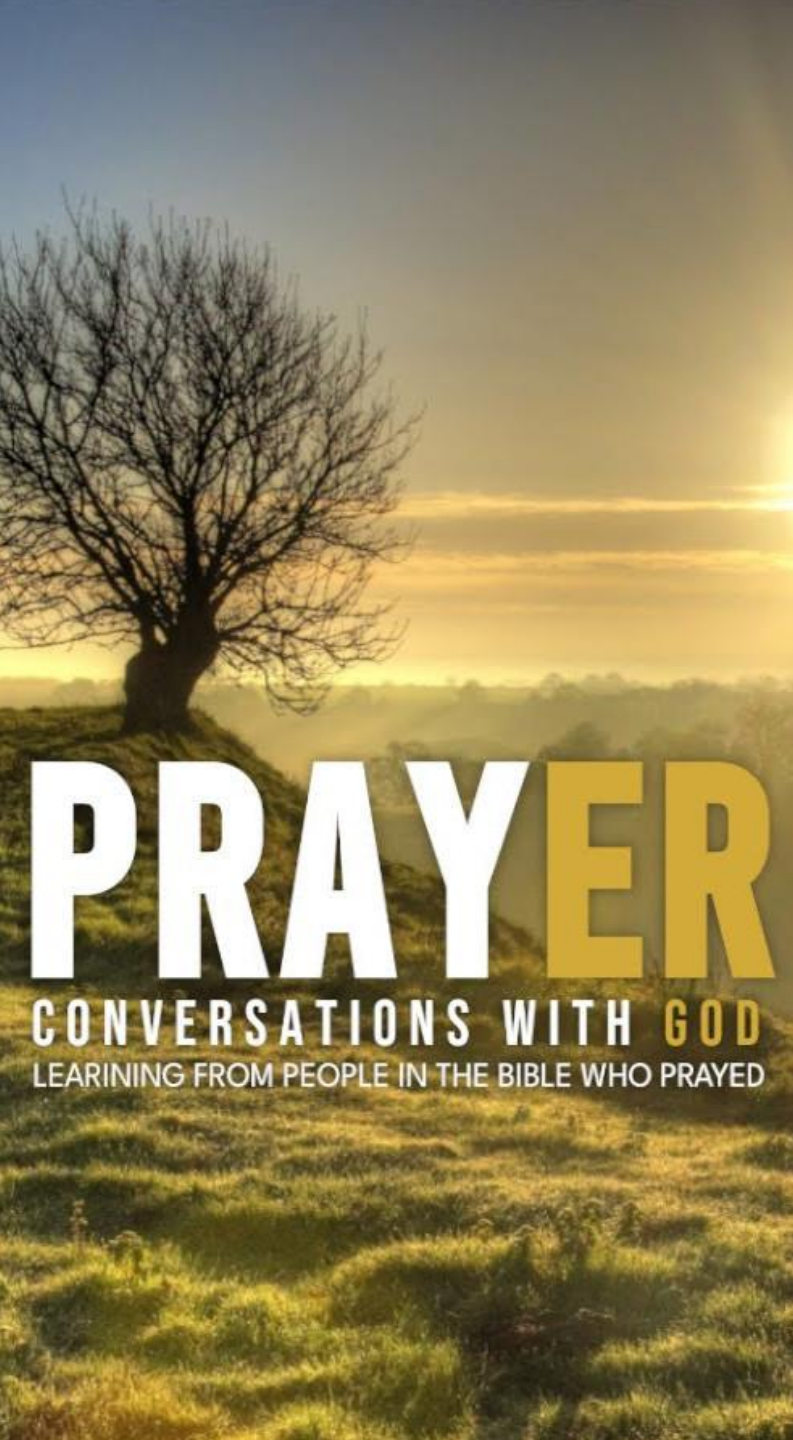


How rude can a
prayer meeting be?



‘Prayer is simply a two-way conversation between you and God.’

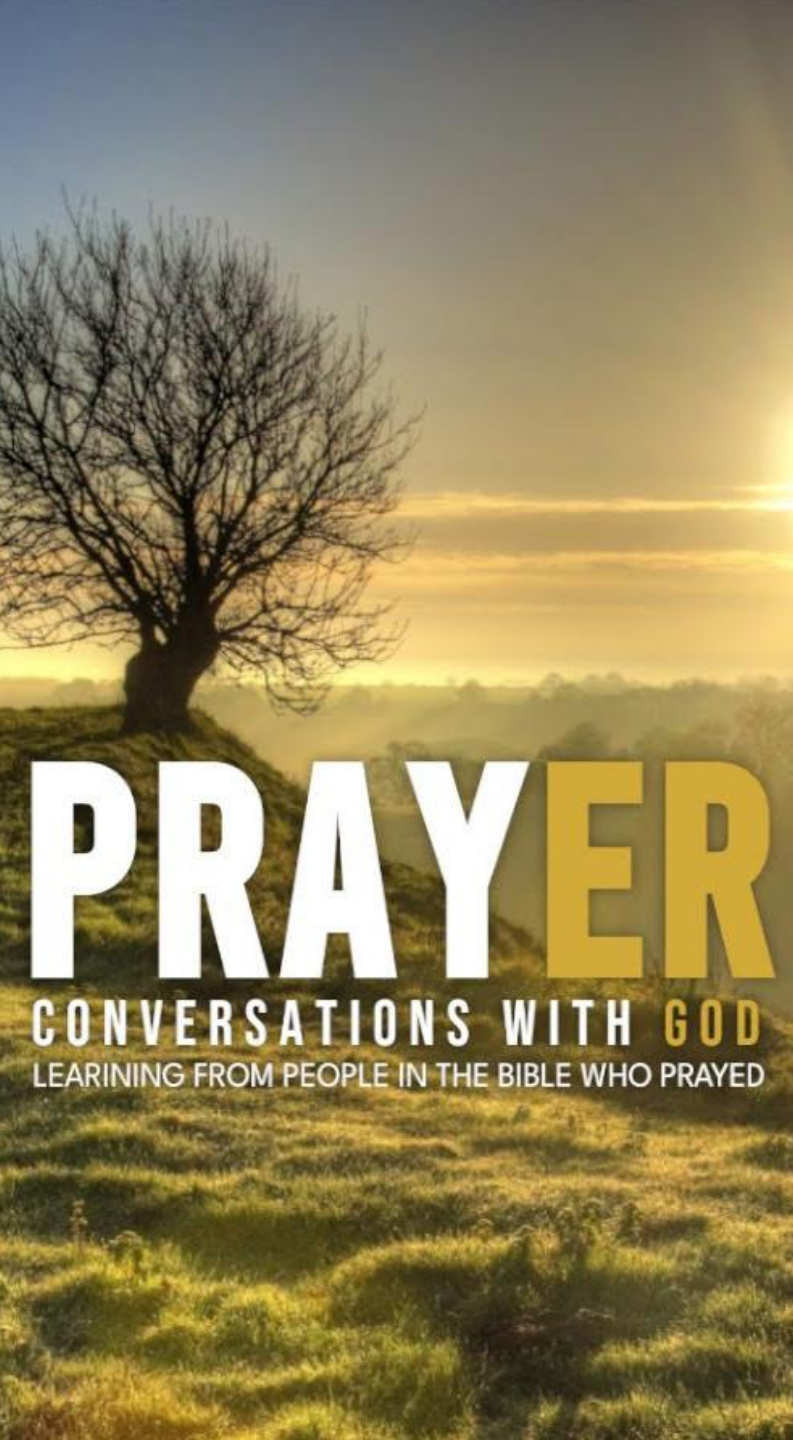
Billy Graham
Evangelist



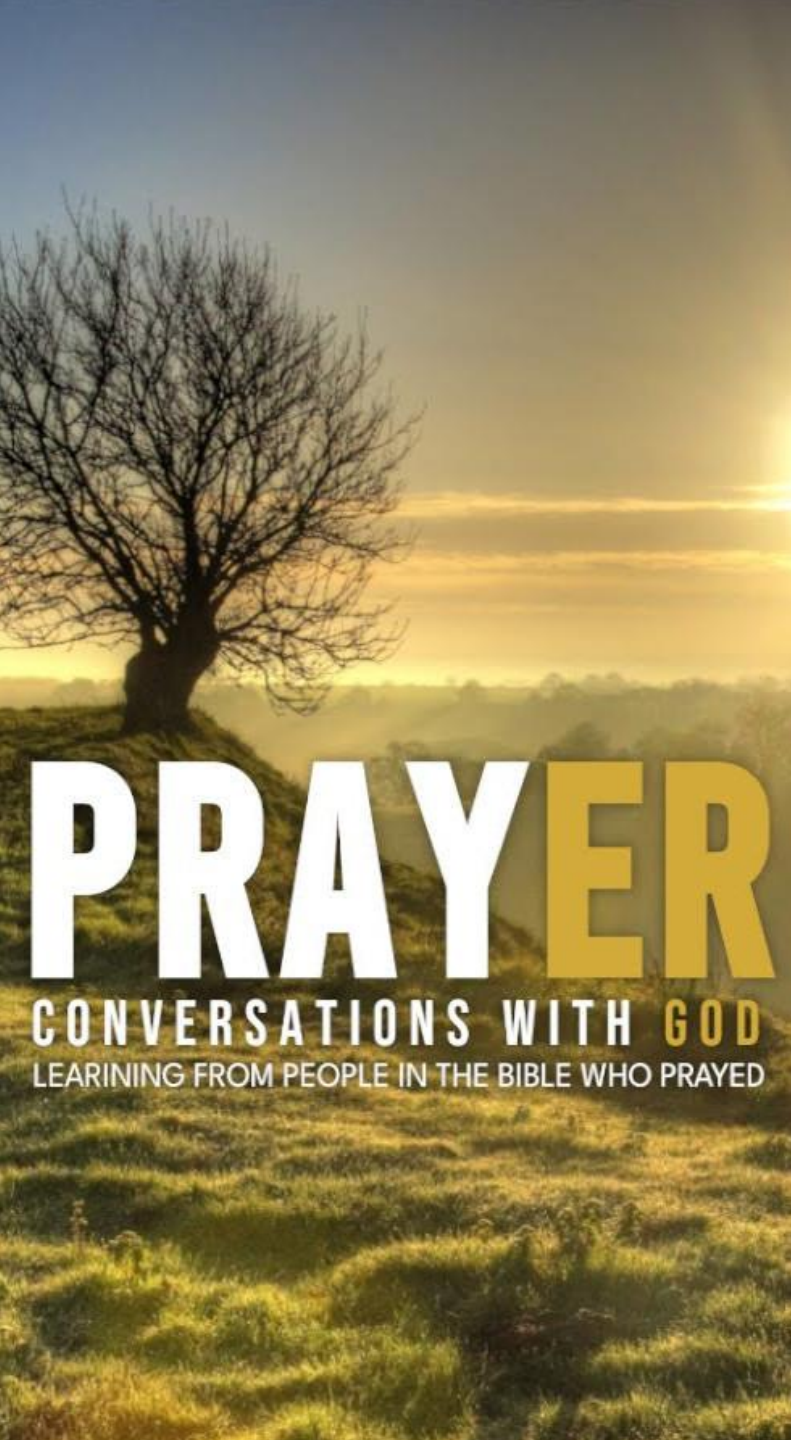
‘God speaks in the
silence of the heart.
Listening is the
beginning of prayer.’

Mother Teresa

*(Jesus said) ... for your Father knows
what you need before you ask him.*



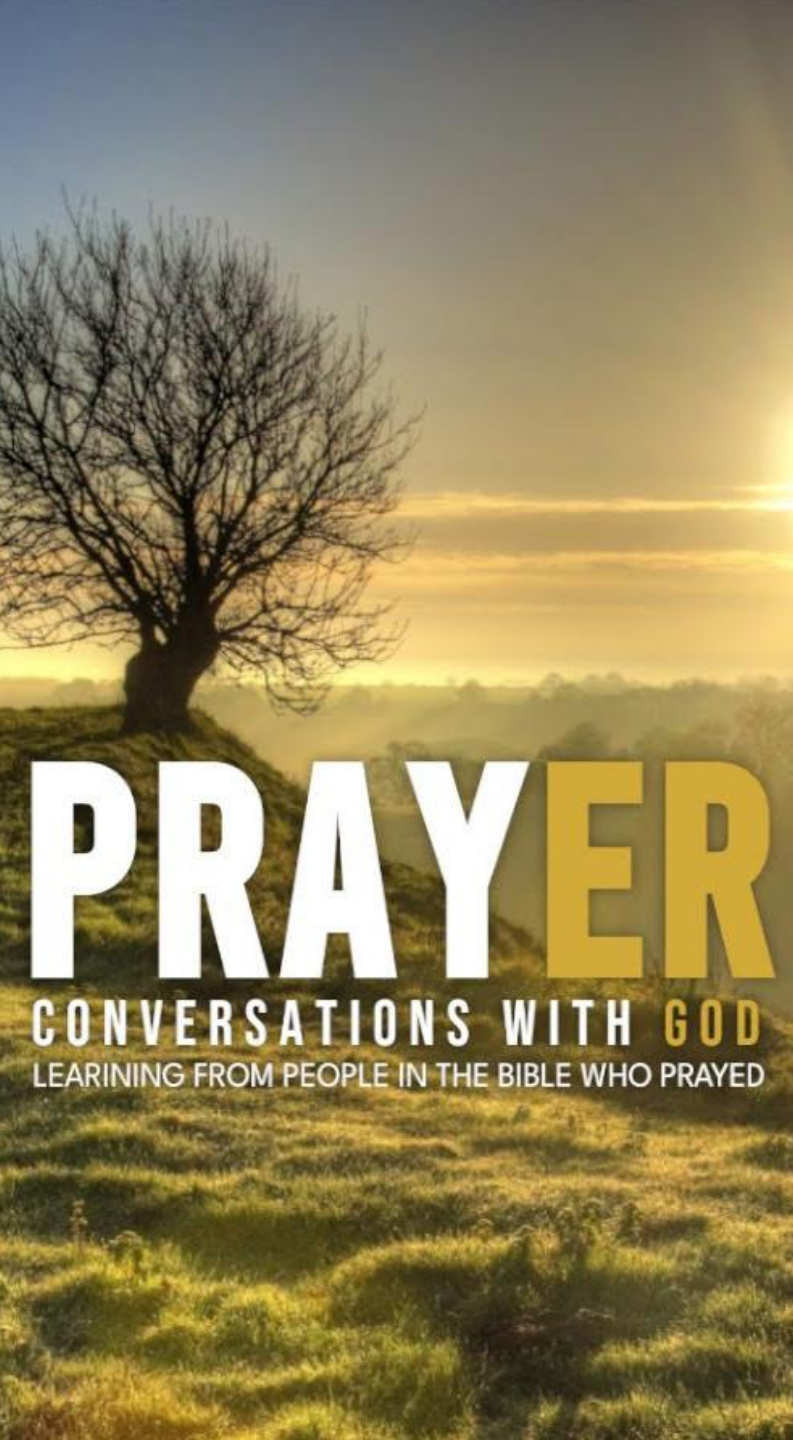
Can you hear
the birds?



Joyce Meyer

American Christian author and speaker

‘Prayer is such a basic foundation of a Christian's relationship with God. It's how we communicate and fellowship with Him. But a surprising number of people, young and old, new and even long-time Christians, say they're not satisfied with their prayer life.’



‘God speaks in the
silence of the heart.
Listening is the
beginning of prayer.’

Mother Teresa

*(Jesus said) ... for your Father knows
what you need before you ask him.*

A landscape photograph featuring a bare, dark tree on a grassy hill in the foreground. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow across the sky and the landscape. The background shows rolling hills and a distant city skyline under a hazy sky.

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