

## Women's Bible Study Agenda September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Social Time

Thanks to those who provided Treats

Bible Study Business

Music:

- ELW 638 Blessed Assurance
- ELW 661 I Love to Tell the Story
- ELW 742 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Prayer Requests and Update Prayer List

Opening Prayer

Book Discussion – Chapter 7 – **“God Can’t Do Everything But He Can Do Some Important Things”**

- The chapter begins with a story about a call late at night with a request to pray a certain way. Is it okay to pray for a certain outcome?
  - P 130: Poem by Jack Riemer, –
  - What does the last verses say to you?
  - What can prayer do for us, to help us when we hurt?
- What are the two things that Kushner believes prayer does?
- When the stranger called him asking for prayer for his mother, if Kushner and for that matter, some of us may feel that perhaps our prayers do nothing to move God to affect the results of the surgery, why did he or why do we then offer or agree to pray for others?
  - What is it we are saying to those in need? Can our prayers alter the course of a person's health or grief?
  - After a death the Jewish community gathers to sit shiva with the bereaved. What do we do after a death and prior to a funeral?
  - What is accomplished, how are prayers answered and how is God present in our own tradition of a funeral lunch?
  - What do we as Christian's do during the year or so following a death? What can we do?
  - How is the one who is ill and/or their family be affected by our prayers?
- What did you take away from the story by Harry Golden? P 134-5 Why go to Synagogue
- When have you felt God's presence through prayer? Do you feel connected to God through your own prayers?
- How do the two prayers of Jacob differ?
- When have you asked and received God's presence, courage, or strength in your life?
- So then, does God answer prayer?
- Prayer does not always provide a miracle, a blazing answer in the sky; but we do discover people around us, God beside us, and strength within us to help us survive the tragedy, sorrow, illness or whatever we in need of prayer for. Yes, God answers prayer!

Birthdays

Closing Prayer – Lord's Prayer