

**Greetings
to the Church in
Montreal
from the church in
Buffalo**



Where's the French speaking couple?



Where are the guests from Africa?



Who's the brother in the middle?



FAMILY
August 4, 2012

Abraham's Conversation with God in Genesis 18

1. God approached Abraham to befriend him and be close to Him.
2. God knew what was on Abraham's heart (having a son) and they had a conversation about it.
3. Then God revealed that He was about to destroy the city that Abraham's nephew Lot lived in.
4. Abraham then interceded for his nephew Lot.

Prayer:

Having Conversations with God

Telling Him What is on Our Heart

Learning What is on His Heart

Prayer:

A Way to Align Our Will
with God's Will

The Pattern of the Lord Jesus:

A Man of Prayer

the First Time the Lord prayed was ...

At His baptism:

Luke 3:21-22 Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized **and was praying**, the heavens were opened, and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

Three Things Happened:

1. the heavens opened,
2. the Spirit descended and anointed Him,
3. the Father spoke

When we stand for the Lord's interest, we should expect to experience all three things in our prayer

Prayer was the Lord's fellowship
with the Father His entire ministry

Often He went to a mountain or withdrew to
pray (Matt 14:23; Mark 1:35; Luke 5:16; 6:12;
9:28)

His work was mingled with prayer:

Peter's revelation

His transfiguration,

feeding 5,000

The Lord's Prayer at Gethsemane

³³ And he took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be greatly distressed and troubled. ³⁴ And he said to them, “My soul is very sorrowful, even to death. Remain here and watch.” ³⁵ And going a little farther, he fell on the ground and **prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him.** ³⁶ And he said, “Abba, Father, **all things are possible for you.** Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.” Mark 14:33-36

Synonyms for the Word 'will'

- be resolved or determined, to purpose
- to desire, to wish
- to like to do a thing
- to take delight in, have pleasure

The Lord Knew Why He Came

- John 5:30— I can do nothing on my own. As I hear, I judge, and my judgment is just, because I seek not my own will but the will of him who sent me.
- John 6:38— For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me.

This Prayer Matches Our Experience

1. We (the Lord and I) start with different views/'wills'
2. We pray (fellowship)
3. We arrive at the same conclusion

The Lord's Will and the Father's Will Matching

⁵² Then Jesus said to him, “Put your sword back into its place. For all who take the sword will perish by the sword. ⁵³ Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? ⁵⁴ But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that **it must be so?**” Matthew 26:52-54

Consider and Pray

Before prayer

³⁵ And going a little farther, he fell on the ground and prayed that, **if it were possible, the hour might pass from him.** ³⁶ And he said, “Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.” (Mark 14)

After prayer

⁵⁴ But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that **it must be so?”** (Matt. 26)