

May 2012 Theme: **"THE LORD WILL RECEIVE MY PRAYER" (PSALM 6:9B)**

EVENING WORSHIP

6 May 2012

Title: **"CONSIDER AND HEAR ME, O LORD MY GOD"**

Text: **Psalm 13**

(I) FACING STRUGGLES IN PRAYER

1. Struggling with God hiding His face

*"How long would you hide your face from me?" **Psalm 13:1***

2. Struggling with the waiting aspect

*"How long, O Lord? Will You forget me forever? How long...How long..." **Psalm 13:1-2***

3. Struggling with our emotions

a) Feelings of sorrow

*"Having sorrow in my heart daily?..." **Psalm 13:2***

b) Fear of death

*"Lest I sleep the sleep of death..." **Psalm 13:4***

(II) REASONS WHY PRAYERS ARE NOT ANSWERED

1. When we pray wrongly

*"You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss that you may spend it on your pleasures." **James 4:3***

2. When there is a sin problem

*"But your iniquities have separated you from your God and your sin have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear." **Isaiah 59:2***

(III) MAKING APPROPRIATE PRAYERS TO OUR KING

1. Manner of prayer

"Consider and hear me, O Lord, my God." Psalm 13:3

a) Petitioning

b) Pleading

2. Considerations to bear in mind in prayer

a) Thought through prayers

"How long shall I take counsel in my own soul..." Psalm 13:2

"Give ear to my words, O Lord, consider my meditations." Psalm 5:1

b) God's mercy as the basis

"In your mercy..." Psalm 13:5

"Have mercy of me, O Lord! Consider my trouble from those who hate me...that I may tell of all Your praise." Psalm 9:13

3. Interactive approach in prayer – Seeking enlightenment

"Enlighten my eyes..." Psalm 13:3

(IV) RESULTS OF GOD ENLIGHTENING US IN ANSWER TO PRAYER

1. Sense of assurance

"Because He has dealt bountifully with me" Psalm 13:6

2. Deepening trust

"But I have trusted in Your mercy..." Psalm 13:5

3. Rejoicing in the Lord

"My heart shall rejoice in Your salvation" Psalm 13:5