

**Series Prayer****Passage** Daniel 9:1-19**Title** Pattern for Pleadings**Speaker:** Aaron Newman 03/12/2017

Discussion Starter: What were some of the most impactful things you learned from the sermon this past Sunday on the proper patterns for effective prayer?

Starting with Scripture (Daniel 9:1-2; Jeremiah 25:11, 29:10)

- Daniel's study of scripture drove him to pray a prayer filled with scripture. How can you use scripture in your prayers?

Prayer is Not for Changing God, but aligning us to His Will (Daniel 9:3)

- We see that Daniel not only prepares himself with the studying of God's word, but additionally prepares himself by fasting, putting on sackcloth and ashes. What is the significance in fasting and putting on sackcloth and ashes? In what way does this help Daniel to align his will to God? How do you prepare yourself before meeting in prayer with God?

Confession of Sins Proceeds Supplications (Daniel 9:4-16, Psalms 51:1-4)

- Everything we know about Daniel according to the bible indicates that he lead an exemplary life devoted to God. Daniel does not approach God as a victim, but a sinner. Why do you think Daniel includes himself with the nation of Israel as a sinner? What lessons can we learn from this pattern by Daniel as we intercede for others in prayer?
- What are some of the things we learn from how Daniel approaches God with his confessions?

Declare Our Requests to God in Boldness (Daniel 9:17-19; John 17:5)

- Daniel knew his own position and God's ability. Daniel saw himself not only as a sinner but also as a son. What do you see as Daniel's primary motivation for coming boldly with his request before God? What is the motivation behind most of your prayers? How has this week's message encouraged you to look at the pattern and motivation of your prayers?