

Thoughtful Thursday, July 17, 2025

Is it hot enough for you? I wish it would cool down. Is it ever going to rain? I wish it stop raining. Summer weather in Iowa. We talk about it as often as we do it in the winter when it's bone chilling cold and the snow is piled high after many rounds of snow removal.

Weather is always a good conversation starter. In Iowa if we don't like the weather, it will probably change shortly...however, right now it seems like this heat just won't go away. We have at least had some rain so we aren't in a complete drought.

How do you start a conversation with God? Do you bow your head in prayer where you are, and just say what's in your heart and on your mind? Do you talk to Him as if he were sitting there in the room with you? Do you go outside and sit in the yard or on your deck and let everything go? My favorite time is when I am driving, in the car or van by myself. I don't usually have the radio on. It's distracting. My house isn't exactly quiet. The air conditioner is running almost non-stop and there are multiple ceiling and oscillating fans trying to move the air around. The TV is usually on to some channel, although most of the time it would just qualify as noise.

God hears everything, including prayers. He wants us to pray. He is God, He already knows what is on your heart and on your mind. Nothing gets by him, Psalm 139:4, "For there is not a word on my tongue, but lo, O Lord, thou knowest it altogether." He is sovereign over everything he created, Isaiah 46:9 "Remember the former things, those of long ago; I am God, and there is no other; I am God and there is none like me." The question is not whether God is aware of every prayer, but how God intends to answer them. The answer will come, in his time, and in his way, which is sometimes a difficult wait. But if we trust in him, we know it will come!

Regional prayers this week are for First Christian Church, Panora, Casey Brown, Daniel Romero and Angelo Luis. Noelridge Christian Church, Cedar Rapids. Stasia Fine.

Pastor Doug's sermon is titled, "Changing Clothes". The scripture is Colossians 3:5-11, key is verse 10.