

The Necessity of Prayer

Small Group Guide

Warm-up Question: (Choose one, make up your own, or skip this part all together, depending upon the nature of your group.)

1. What is one thing that you own (besides a computer, car, or phone) that you would find it difficult to go without?
2. Other than an immediate family member, whom do you talk to the most?

Read the following passage: Luke 18:1-8; 21:37-38; 22:39-46.

Jesus lived a life of prayer. The Mount of Olives was one of the key places Jesus went to pray when he was in Jerusalem to celebrate the Jewish festivals. This habit of prayer empowered Jesus to have perspective, peace, and poise in the middle of very challenging circumstances. On top of modeling a life of prayer, Jesus told his disciples that we should always pray and never give up. A habit of daily prayer is one of the most practical ways to persevere in the midst of adversity.

Questions for Discussion (Choose several that are relevant for your group):

1. On a scale of 1 to 10, how challenging does this season of your life feel to you? Explain.
2. Why do you think Jesus made prayer a regular practice in his life?
3. How might each of the following aspects of prayer help us? To what extent do you incorporate each of these practices into your prayer life?
 - Praise
 - Thanksgiving
 - Repentance
 - Listening
 - Making requests for yourself
 - Making requests for others
 - Meditating on Scripture
 - Praying in tongues (see 1 Corinthians 14)
 - Other?
4. How can we practically use the Scriptures to inform our prayers?
5. Do you feel confident that God will hear you and respond to you when you pray? Explain.

6. What are the biggest obstacles to your prayer life right now?
7. How can you practically incorporate daily prayer into your life?

Pray