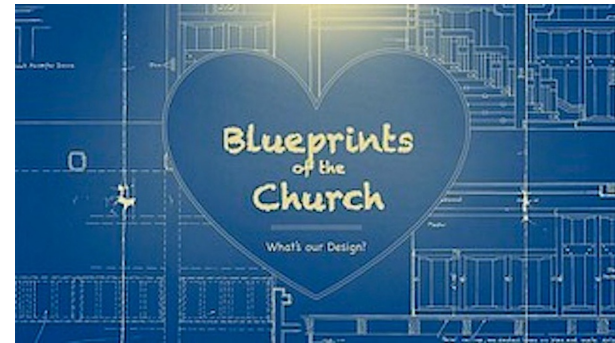


## **Praying Together**

Your Life Group is a time to build solid Christian relationships, explore the Scripture together, and pray. Share some personal prayer items with each other, jotting things down in the space below so you can continue to pray at home. That's how Community Covenant engages in regular prayer.

## **Prayer For Each Other**



**In The Name Of Jesus**

**Acts 3:1-10**

**Eric Sorenson**

**October 22, 2017**

## **Prayers For the Church**

- Pray for church unity
- Pray for our leaders as they seek to discern God's direction as we move closer toward setting up a pastoral search committee
- Pray for the various areas of our church's ministry, particularly our Fall Fest on October 29
- Pray for those dealing with recent tragedies and natural disasters

## **Pray for our community and the world**

### **Before You Unroll the Blueprints:**

Share with your group what routine you practice in your Christian life, if you have one. Do you practice certain disciplines or habits to enhance your relationship with Jesus?

### **Opening the Blueprints:**

**Read Acts 3: 1-10** Pay attention to how this healing story takes place. How does it develop? Who does Peter believe healed this disabled man lying by the Beautiful Gate? Who does the healed man think brought about his healing? Skim through Peter's sermon that follows, and then through chapter 4, to observe how many times a reference is made to the Name of Jesus. How is it used in those verses?

**Read Luke 10: 1** and notice whom Jesus is sending out. In verse 16, Jesus makes an interesting statement. In your own words, what's he trying to say? Now read Acts 9.4, paying attention to the last line (even the last word). Do you see a connection between Luke 10.16 and Acts 9.4? What does this say about the relationship between Jesus and his followers, the church?

Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote, "Between his [Jesus'] ascension and his coming again the church is his form and indeed his only form" (*Christ the Center*, 58). Even though our church is only one "outpost" of the bigger church, what does this statement say to you about our self-identity as a church?

What did Jesus actually do during his earthly ministry that we're supposed to continue? How can we continue the ministry Jesus began?

### **Getting into the Superstructure:**

Doing ministry "in the Name of Jesus" most certainly implies that Jesus does his work today through the church. How are we the presence of Christ to our community? What are we at Community Covenant *not* engaged in that we could be if we really understood ourselves to be the presence of Christ in our community? What about you, personally?

### **Taking Some Personal Measurements:**

To function as a church in the Name of Jesus, to be Jesus to our community certainly means we must draw closer to Jesus. How can we as a church draw into Jesus? How can *you* more closely draw into him?