

Praying Together

Spend time praying together with your group, giving time to share joys and concerns, but making sure you have enough time to actually pray. Jot down your own prayer requests before your gathering begins.



Abiding Words

Psalm 119: 97-104

Eric Sorenson May 6, 2018

Notes on How to Pray for Others

How to Pray for our Church

Pray for unity and a growing sense of community

Pray for the Senior Pastor search committee that begins meeting soon

Pray for the church staff during this time of transition

Pray that our church board will be filled with God's wisdom and insight

Pray for the hospitalized and the infirmed

Pray for children's, youth and adult ministries

Other Concerns:

Pray for our Community, our country, the World, and our missionaries.

Opening Up

Did you ever write your mom a poem for Mother's Day? Is poetry reading or writing your thing, or not?

Digging Into Our Text

Before you dig into our text, jot down a few things you find challenging about prayer. What is your usual approach to prayer, and what do you sense is lacking in it? Read John 15.7. What are the two conditions Jesus says need to be met in order to receive whatever we ask for in his name? In what sense are the words we read in Scripture the words of Jesus? Have you ever spent any time praying the words of Scripture? What's that been like for you in the past?

Sit with the words of Hebrews 4.12-13. Write a paraphrase of those words. What are those verses saying about the power of the word of God? What are some other ways that the word of God expresses power? Have you experienced the power of the word of God in your own life? Describe it. Based on your memory of the New Testament, how familiar was Jesus with the Scripture? What role did it play during times of temptation and while he was hanging on the cross? Why do you think the Scriptures were so significant to him?

Read Psalm 119.97-104. What are some values that come from spending time in God's "Law?" List out some of the synonyms used here for God's law. How do those synonyms help you appreciate Scripture? On Sunday we highlighted some reasons that meditating on the Scripture is an invaluable practice. Here the writer clearly identifies two other reasons. What are they?

When you come together for Life Group, encourage your group to try praying Scripture together. Here are some possibilities: 1 Samuel 2.1-10; Psalm 3; 23; 91; 100; Luke 11.2-4; Romans 5.1-11; Colossians 2.6-7; Revelation 5.9-14.

Getting Personal

What was it like for you this past Sunday when we prayed the Scriptures at the end of the sermon? Take a few minutes to go over the passages listed above, or page through the Psalms and select a few that may be meaningful for you to pray through privately. Create a list of Scriptures, and then actually plan a time to practice praying Scripture. Be prepared to share your experience with your group.

For Pondering in Private

Take careful note of your experience with praying Scripture. What was meaningful to you, what not? How did you handle passages that didn't seem directly relevant to your personal situation? Take some time to actually ask Jesus to teach you how to pray, and to learn how to pray based on his word.