



Group Discussion Questions

Reaching Forward - February 27 | March 1, 2020

Group Discussion: What would you say is one of the most important things for which you pray?

Read: Joshua 9 & 10

When you pray are you a formal prayer, you stop, close your eyes, bow your head; or are you an internal prayer and just have a conversation with God internally in your mind? What do you think God prefers?

Do you pray to start or finish your day? Do you pray at meals?
Do you tend to pray when things are going well or when things go badly?

How does prayer impact your attitude when things go badly? How does prayer impact your attitude when things go well? Do you ever stop, when things are going well, and take time to thank God for the success?

Have you ever had a prayer answered quickly and obviously?

Have you prayed for something for a long time?

Have you prayed for something and felt God say, "No."

When trauma hits do you think people depend on God and pray more or less?

At one point Joshua tells us, "...he did not ask for the counsel of the Lord." How do you ask for God's counsel and input? How does He respond? In the second story Joshua prays for a miracle and it occurs! Those 2 stories are a contrast of how important it is to include God in all we do. What do you do to include God in what you do? What can you change to be more inclusive of God in your life, decision making, choices?

Do you ever feel like God is not at work in your life because you hear other people talk about how God answers prayer and yet you feel like He's never specifically answered one of your prayers?

Do you have any rote, memorized prayers that you prayer over and over again?

Read: Matthew 6:5-15. Jesus says don't repeat prayers over and over again like the Gentiles who think they're heard because of repetition. Then He gives a prayer that you can pray over and over again. Why would He do that? How can we pray the Lord's Prayer so that it doesn't become repetitious? Take some time right now in your group and pray through the Lord's prayer. Pray one line of the prayer like: "Give us this day our daily bread." Then take time to thank God for all the different ways He provides daily food and provision for you and your family.

Family Time: Take a piece of paper and wad it up and then iron it, then wad it and iron it, over and over again until it looks old. Ask your child if the paper is really older or just looks older. Then tell them the story of how the Gideonites craftily tricked the Israelites into thinking they had come from a very far country. Use Joshua 9:14 and explain how Joshua failed to ask God for wisdom and direction in dealing with the Gideonites. Then ask them how your family can ask for God's wisdom in your life.