SUMMARY

Without connecting with God, you can't know Him or His plans for your life. You're missing something if you are missing God. Wisdom comes from God, so connect with Him through prayer.

START WELL

Before each meeting you should:

- Read the scripture reference(s).
- Read the discussion topics.
- Pray for your group mates.
- Pray for your meeting.
- Be the first to smile!

END WELL

Each week you should:

- Remind people to pray
- Update the prayer journal
- Follow up with your group throughout the week

SCRIPTURE

• Matthew 6:5-15 - The "Lord's Prayer"

ICEBREAKER

Which season fits your personality best (spring, summer, fall, or winter) and why?

DISCUSSION

This week is all about prayer. As a group read through the scripture selection and discuss areas that may stand out, confuse, or excite your members. If your conversation needs some caffeine you can ask simple questions like:

- Is there a command to obey or example to follow?
- Is there an underlying promise?
- If you prayed in the way that Jesus shows, what do you expect to happen in your life? In your human relationships? In your spiritual relationship?

Once you've gone through the scripture selection, it's time to focus our attention on the meat of this week: prayer!

Ask your group members what they think about prayer and feel out what

their individual prayer lives are like. Challenge them to increase the time they spend "on their knees".

As a group activity, spend about 45-60 minutes praying in a circle, both out loud and individually. Silence shouldn't be a sign to you that it isn't working or people aren't engaged. As a leader, it isn't your responsibility to fill silence, but to provide space for others to fill silence. This will be hard, but so worth it. Don't be afraid to encourage **everyone** to pray out loud.

