



Encounter Week 4 – Prayer **Small Group Discussions**

ICE BREAKER:

If you could have an unlimited supply of one thing (not \$\$) what would it be? Why?

VIDEO REFLECTION:

Is there something that stuck out to you from the videos? (*Questions, thoughts, concerns*)

DISCUSSION:

(This week Scripture and Discussion will be combined)

1. Each of us has a different perspective on prayer based on our experiences (both positive and negative). What comes to mind for you when you think about prayer? How do you perceive prayer?
2. What are some experiences (positive or negative) you've had with prayer?
3. If you had to rate your prayer life (1-10; A-F), how would you rate it? No judgement
4. What are some obstacles to prayer for you?

Don't feel like you have to ask all of questions 1-4. The idea of these questions is to begin the dialogue about prayer, and that there is not a "secret sauce" to prayer, and we all struggle from time to time, or more often with our prayer life. Take as little or as much time on this. For some people this may be very lifegiving to know they aren't alone.

5. Luke 18:1-8 in this passage Jesus tells a parable about prayer.
 - a. Why do you think Jesus uses an unjust judge in this parable?
6. Read Matthew 7:7-11; what similarities do you find in these passages?
 - a. What promises do these two passages infer?
 - b. Has that been your experience with God?
 - c. What are the “take-aways” from these passages?
 - d. How does this passage relate to Steve’s message this weekend?
 - e. How is prayer a discipline of perseverance?
7. How do you think your view of God impacts your prayer life?
8. How do you think your view of God impacts your ability to walk in endurance?
9. Why do you think listening is a part of prayer?
10. How does your view of God impact your ability to listen for God?
11. Is listening to God easy or a challenge for you?
12. In what ways do you think prayer can be a practice in endurance?
13. Read Romans 5:1-5
 - a. What sticks out to you in this passage?
 - b. What truths does this passage tell us about God?
 - c. What challenges you about this verse?
 - d. How does this verse apply to prayer?
14. What are some ways God is challenging you in terms of prayer?
15. How can we pray for you this week?