

Small Group Discussion Questions

Series: Rhythms: Prayer

Speaker: Jay Haugh

Message: Prayer of Supplication

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Memory Verse: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NIV

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

The goal of these questions is to foster meaningful discussion and to encourage participants to reflect on God's Word to lead to heart transformation. Feel free to modify or expand upon these questions based on the dynamics and needs of your Small Group.

Big Idea: Prayer is about aligning our requests with God's will, not about obtaining our will.

- Now that we have learned all the components of an ACTS prayer, put it into practice by having a corporate time of prayer where the group has an opportunity to pray something from each letter. As the Leader, you can start with A, then once the prayers have slowed, repeat the process with C, T & S.

Read Psalm 139:1-4

- Because God is omniscient, have you ever struggled with cultivating a regular discipline of prayer in your life? Have you ever thought, "Why do I need to pray when God already knows everything?" What sinful root in us enables these thoughts and behaviors?

Read Philippians 2:12-13 & 1 Corinthians 15:10

- Christianity is opposed to earning, not effort. Discuss the tension between what God does and the effort we need to put forth. What are some ways we can strive to "work out our faith" or "work harder than anyone else" in the faith?



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- Do you take a more active or passive approach to your faith development? How can prayer keep us from a life of passivity?

Read Matthew 7:7-12

- What stands out to you about the character of God from this passage? Why does God want us to come to Him? Are there any areas of your life where you struggle to bring your needs and desires before the Lord?

Read 2 Corinthians 3:18

- When we regularly enter God’s presence through prayer, we will be changed. How does prayer help you “behold the glory of the Lord?” How have you found (or hope to find) that a regular rhythm of prayer will transform your mind and heart?
- As you reflect on your prayers for supplication, are you asking for your will to be done? What does it look like to pray a prayer of supplication that is aligned with God’s heart? How can we ensure our prayers are not solely self-centered but instead align with God’s will?
- Walk through this exercise as a group: Provide each individual an opportunity to share where they want to see movement in their prayer life. Then, discuss strategies on how they can move from where they are to where they want to be. Encourage building in methods of accountability.



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