

Instructions

Group leaders, take some time before your gathering to look over these questions. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you and pick 3-5 questions to discuss, which pertain to your group's unique needs and style.

For the video related questions, look up the video in RightNow Media. You can do this on a phone, tablet, computer, or SmartTV device. You can easily find the video by clicking on the "Revolution Church" channel within the app. If you or a group member needs access to RightNow Media, please email info@revolutionky.org.

Series Synopsis

What does it mean to be a part of a church community? Why do we commit ourselves to one place instead of any other church down the road? As Christians, we believe that we are a part of the great family of God, brothers and sisters in Christ, which crosses all denominational distinctions and barriers because of our shared baptism. We are members together in a great household of faith. Yet we are called to embody that faith in a particular location and among a specific people. We are called to community and to be known and loved by a particular church congregation. And because we are family, family requires commitment.

So what does the lord require of us right here and right now, among this people? How can we uphold our vow to God and to one another to live out our faith at Revolution Church with our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness? Join us this November as we consider these commitments and ask God, what do you desire from us?

Message Synopsis

We know that prayer is a vital gift in the life of a Christian. We know that prayer isn't so much about changing other people or other circumstances, but about changing our own hearts to become more like Christ. Prayer creates space for the Holy Spirit to transform us so that we might become agents of God's love in the world. But have you ever stopped to consider the role prayer should play in a faith community? Prayer has the power to transform many into one mind, one faith, one mission, one Spirit, one love, and one lord of all in Jesus Christ. We may find it easy to pray for one another, but when is the last time you prayed for the mission of the church? For our children and youth? For who God is calling us to be? For leadership, staff, and pastors? Prayer is powerful because it binds us together in love.

Key Scriptures

Romans 12:1-2, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-28

Questions Related to This Week's Message

1. When do you find it most easy to pray? When do you find it most difficult to pray?
2. When have you found yourself praying for the church, in any form?
3. Do you believe in the power of prayer? What makes you doubt it?
4. What are some creative ways you can begin to incorporate prayer for specific names and groups in the church into your prayer life?

Video and Discussion Questions from RightNow Media

Video: “Talking with God: Session 3 – Short, Simple, Honest” by Adam Weber (22 min)

(located in the “Renovation Group Bible Studies” channel)

<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/274859?episode=3>

1. Take a moment to discuss the video freely. What stuck out to you? What bothered you? What questions did this raise for you? Even consider where and why your mind wandered as you watched, as it might reveal something of your heart or something of significance in the message.
2. Where do you struggle most with prayer?
3. Do you really believe that God hears you when you pray? Why or why not? Describe a time when you were sure God heard you and explain how you knew he was listening.
4. Do you pray differently with others than you do by yourself? Why and why not? Why might this be a good thing? Why might it be a bad thing?
5. Do you have trouble being honest with God? After you discuss this question, pass out cards to your group and have each person reflect on this question. Write down something you need to say to God that you haven't. Take this card home with you and make it a focus of your private prayers this week. Follow up with each other next week to share how God met you in your honesty.
6. Consider watching more of this series at home if you want to learn more about improving your prayer life.

Family-Related Questions:

1. Do you pray with your family? When and how do you pray? Before meals? Before bed? Other times?
2. Without breaking their trust or embarrassing your kids, discuss the way in which your kids pray. What kind of things do they pray for? What kind of language do they use?
3. What are you learning from your kids about prayer? What (good or bad) are they learning about prayer from you?
4. How can you help your kids feel more comfortable with prayer, understand the power of prayer and that God is always listening (set an expectation for prayer), and make prayer more meaningful and personal?