

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

Resolute in Prayer

Passage: Daniel 6

Introduction: God uses prayer as a central way to accomplish His will in the world. When we pray, we acknowledge our need for God, our dependence on God, and our trust in Him to work in the world as only He can. A prayerful people is a powerful people. Rise up, O church, and pray!

Additional passages: John 15:1-8, Eph. 6:18, Phil. 4:6-7, Col. 4:2, 1 Thess. 5:16-18, 1 John 5:14-15.

Questions:

Each of us has different and important responsibilities that demand our time: we are all busy and that can crowd out time for prayer. What are we to do? John noted that Daniel had a country to run (Daniel 6:1-3) and he still dedicated time to pray three different times each day. Jesus also clearly had a vibrant, regular, and devoted prayer life. So ...

1. What is your rhythm of prayer? How do you ensure you are consistently praying, busy or not?
2. Maintaining a consistent rhythm of prayer requires protecting time for it (Col 4:2).
In light of that:
 - a. Are there people you need to say "no" or "not right now" to in order to prioritize prayer?
 - b. Apply the same question to your potential future commitments: any "no's" or "not right now's" needed? Any current commitments you have that should stop once you fulfill them?
3. John noted that lack of prayer reveals over-confidence. We are dependent on the Lord for physical and spiritual life, but we can fall prey to the illusion that we don't need Him. Reading the Bible from a perspective of need is a great way to grow your prayer life. As you read the Bible, do you regularly ask, "how does this passage reveal my need?" Do you regularly ask, "how does God provide for my need?" Does your Bible reading feed into your prayer life?
4. Read 1 John 5:14-15. How is it going with believing God hears and answers every prayer? How is it going with trusting God when the answer is not what you wanted or expected it to be?
5. Prayer is part of an ongoing relationship with God (John 15:1-8, Phil 4:6-7). How is the interactive part of your prayer life with God going? What is God showing you right now as you process the circumstances of your life with Him?
6. John talked about the importance of giving thanks regularly in your prayers. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18. What happens to your mindset and attitude when you regularly give thanks to God?
7. John's final point was trust God for your future. Is there an action step you need to take to grow your faith in God related to your future?