

SCRIPTURE CARD GUIDE FOR GROUP DISCUSSION

"PRAY IT, DECLARE IT, GET IT?!" JANUARY 21

SERIES OVERVIEW:

Biblical truth matters for a myriad of reasons... it is certainly for the power of the Gospel to save souls, but as well biblical doctrine reaches into the health of mind and spirit in faith communities. Mental spiritual health and Christian care and concern can be shaken and experience deep harm when biblical doctrines are erroneous. In this series we will address how often in American Christianity a buffet of doctrines suiting our desires are selected, resulting in confusion and pain, and can even distance us from Jesus Christ. However, true biblical teaching that takes in the whole counsel of God's Word, comforts us, strengthens us, and reassures us of the goodness and faithfulness of Jesus Christ.

Follow the directions below for a guided group discussion with a friend, in a family, small group, etc. Grab a Scripture Card (printed or electronic) and simply follow steps from 1 to 6 on this page and the next.

1

PRAY

About 1 minute

Open in prayer using Psalm 139 where each person reads a verse until all verses have been read in prayer.

2

BIG IDEA

A minute to read

Biblical prayer is radically different from the "name it and claim it" concept. Prayer is a relationship with our Heavenly Father steeped in trust that He listens, loves, and responds to His children.

3

CONNECT

About 10 minutes

Share a high and a low since the group last met.

How have you seen God in these moments?

SUBJECT: WLC Message Series

That [redacted] is [redacted] **NOT** [redacted] what is [redacted] written.

January 21, 2024

May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. - Matthew 6:10

Reflect

Read the full passage in your Bible - Matthew 6:5-15.

What is something that is grabbing your attention from the passage and why?

What does it mean to pray for God's kingdom to come and his will to be done on this earth as it is in heaven?

For you, is prayer more like trying to get something from God or giving yourself to God?

4

DISCIPLE LIFE DISCUSSION

About 45-50 minutes. Read the Scripture above and discuss the questions there. Additional questions below.

How does the act of turning to God in prayer reflect your trust in, and dependence on God? Why is trusting in the goodness, grace, and mercy of God essential when things don't seem to you as they should?

Read Romans 8:26-29. How have you experienced God's care for you when you didn't know what to pray?

How does prayer serve as a means of aligning our thoughts with God's thoughts and contribute to our character looking more like Jesus?

Read Matthew 26:36-46. What lessons can we draw from Jesus' example here (and in other Scriptures) in our own prayer life?



DISCUSSION HELP:

Use follow-up questions to take the discussion deeper. Guide answers to be honest and real.

Can you say more about that?

How have you seen that play out in your life?

What does that stir up in you?

Has anyone else had a similar thought or experience?

What might God be inviting you to do?

5 PRAY:

About 15 minutes

Read the prayer prompts and allow for a time of reflection.

Pair up. Share prayer requests with your partner based on the prayer prompts below. Pray now for your partner and the prayer requests shared.

THE [DISCIPLE] LIFE

Pray

Invite God to teach you to pray. Let this prayer from Jesus guide you.

Talk to God about an area of your life where you would like to see more of his will, more of his kingdom.

Thank God that he is shaping you and your will to be more like him, more like his will.

Live It Out

INVITATION: Slowly pray through the Lord's prayer every day this week (vs. 9-13).

CHALLENGE: In addition to this, think of someone you know who needs the Lord, who needs to know his love for them. Pray each part of the Lord's prayer for them this week.

**Jesus, thank you for inviting me
into this LIFE of following you today!**

6**LIVE IT OUT:**

About 2 minutes

Read the "Live It Out" section and invite the group to take the steps noted.