

APRIL – MAY PRAYER

Praying with Paul, part 2

Leaders:

- The prayer theme of 2018 is “Praying with Paul”. For each night, one prayer of Paul will be used, and from it themes will be drawn out that are found in other passages. The headings will be the ideas/themes to pray through together.
- Select a night to go through these prayers together as a group. The goal is to spend 45 minutes in prayer – 5 min in the theme verses and about 10 minutes for each section.
- A 2 hour small group timeline (suggested) could be: 10 min greeting/talking, 30 min small group questions discussion, 45 min prayer, 35 min accountability
- Introduce the time of prayer as an *opportunity for growing in prayer*. It is not designed only for those who are comfortable, but for those less comfortable to join in and pray out loud with the group.
- Mention the fact that by praying through Scripture, we can have confidence that we are praying God’s own heart for us personally and for his Church

Philippians 1:3-11

- Read the passage and spend the first few minutes praying about anything that comes to mind from reading the passage.

Thank God for his work in your life (v. 3-6)

- As a group, read Philippians 4:4-7 and Colossians 3:17
- Express thanks to God for his attributes and his character
- Thank him for salvation by grace through faith
- Thank him for joyous things and also hard things, for he is faithful in everything

Ask God to develop the “affection of Christ Jesus” among your group (v. 8)

- As a group, read Colossians 3:12-14 and Philippians 2:1-5
- Do you need a more compassionate disposition? Ask God to change you
- Do you need to bear with others with greater patience? Ask God for help
- Ask God to develop in you the things he commands for his people

Ask God for love to abound in knowledge and discernment (v. 9)

- As a group, read John 13:31-35 and 1 John 3:16-18
- Ask God to reveal any unloving tendency or habit, that he would transform that in your life
- What sort of love-motivated act of service could you do to a brother/sister in coming days? Ask God’s help
- Pray for Harvest as a church, that “You Are Loved” would be more and more true as we grow

Depend on God to produce the fruit of righteousness in your life to the glory of God

- As a group, read Galatians 5:22-26
- Praise God for the ways he has produced spiritual fruit in your life
- Ask God to do more in and through you than you could do in your own strength
- Seek his help in any aspect of the fruit of the Spirit that you desire to become more evident in your life