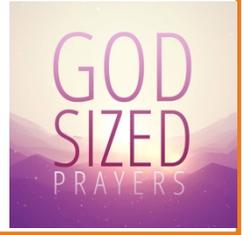




CONNEXIONPOINT C H U R C H WEEKLY



WEEK OF: 10/16/16

MEMORY VERSE: Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

******Remember to listen to this week's sermon, review the Sermon Notes Sheet and complete the discussion questions before attending your Connection Group.***

INTRODUCTION:

The archenemy to praying God-sized prayers is busyness. Because you cannot experience spiritual growth on a diet of constant activity, even if the activity is all church related. Any way you cut it, a key ingredient in praying God-sized prayers is time. Not leftover time, not throwaway time, but quality time. Time for contemplation, meditation, reflection, and hearing the voice of God.

Therefore, those who are really interested in hearing from God must pay a price: they must discipline themselves to be still before God. This is not an easy task.

This week's sermon and Connexion Group Lesson will we discover that that we're too busy not pray.

OPENING DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

When you read "the archenemy of a God-sized praying is busyness," how do you respond?

- I'd like to cut back on my activities, but I can't right now.
- I've found ways to find solitude in the midst of busyness.
- I know I'm caught up in the world's agenda, but I know how to get out of it.
- When I'm able to break away from the pressures of life, I realize this is true.

GROUP LESSON DISCUSSION

1. What was most helpful, encouraging, or challenging from this week's sermon?

2. Why is busyness an enemy of spiritual growth?

What good things might have to give way to let you take more time for the Lord?

3. Psalm 46:10 says, "Be still, and know that I am God." Why does stillness take discipline?

When and how can you still yourself to listen to the Lord?

4. When you pray, do you tend to do more talking or listening? Explain.

What distracts you from listening to Jesus?

5. Think of time you have chosen to let other things go while you listened to the Lord. What have you experienced during these times?

next steps

As you ask God to help you take steps this week to set aside time and attention to listen to the Lord, read the following verse:

Day 1: Jeremiah 29:11-13

Day 2: Luke 10:38-42

Day 3: Luke 11:1-4

Day 4: Luke 11:5-8

Day 5: Luke 11:9-13

Day 6: Romans 12:2

Day 7: Matthew 6:33