

LEADER PAGE | SERIES | Your Most Strategic Investment | **WEEK** 1 of 1 | **Sermon date**: 8/8/21

Discipleship Phrase: Prayer is the work.

<u>Big Idea for Series:</u> Praying for your Christian leaders is key.

Abiding (grow as a disciple yourself)

This week we are discussing all things related to prayer. Please reference Romans 15:30-33 throughout this week. Prayer is foundational to our walk with Christ, and It is what connects us into relationship with Jesus. Spend time this week searching your heart for the ways your prayer life could improve. Be intentional about seeking out new and transformative ways you can connect with the father through prayer. Consider how you bring your life group family before the Lord as you pray.

Leading (facilitate your group effectively)

As you lead group this week, the sermon touches on the importance of praying for our church leaders. When moving through discussion, there are many areas that your group might dive into. Help steer conversation into why prayer is necessary for a strong relationship with God. The circumstances in your life and your true character are all determined by what you talk to God about. Be aware that each member can have varied approaches to prayer. A common misconception is that there's magic formula to getting what you want from God rather than what you or others need. As the conversation moves into praying for our church leaders, it is important to know the Lord is looking at our hearts. Do your prayers reflect a heart for others and for what God wants?

Shepherding (know, feed, lead, and protect the sheep)

Life Group is a place for us to be transparent and vulnerable. A place to belong but also a place to bring our truest selves. At times that could mean sharing some legitimate concerns and when someone in your group does, make certain they feel valued and heard. We must lead relationally which means being genuinely curious about those God has placed in our circle of influence. But it also means leading with enough discernment and courage to challenge one another to rethink when necessary. Holding others accountable and challenging one another is tough but as leaders we too must seek to be challenged and held accountable as well which models humility and leads by example.

<u>Church Announcements</u> (be in the know & share with your group)

Empower Women's Conference is August 27th and 28th! Click here to register!

Life Group Leader Announcements

Have you registered for Refocus yet? Lunch and childcare provided! Click here to register!

REMEMBER: "Every group deserves a great leader.



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Welcome/Introductions (creating a relational environment starts here; be friendly & acknowledge everyone)

Open in Prayer (kickoff every group gathering with honoring the Lord)

Ice Breaker, God Moments, or Highs & Lows (choose one that is best for your group this week)

Weekly Vision Checklist (See Flipbook re: announcements, the "why", goal, outreach, quidelines, & branching)

Ask a Hook Question (a thought-provoking question to get the group heading in the right direction) Who do you talk to when things go wrong?

Recap the Message (ask a couple people to share what stood out to them in this week's message)

Scriptures References (Read scriptures **directly from the Bible**—it carries its own authority) **Romans** 15:30-33

Implications (takeaways from the message)

- 1. EMBRACE a compelling motivation.
- 2. ENGAGE in consistent intercession.
- 3. EXPERIENCE supernatural peace.

Discussion Questions (going beyond the surface)

- 1. After Reading Romans 15:30-33 Daniel said, ""Paul knew that talking to men about God is a great thing. But talking to God about men is the first thing." How does this resonate with you on a head level?
- 2. How often do you find yourself complaining about church leadership? How often do you find yourself praying for church leadership?
- 3. How is your prayer life and how would you describe it?
- 4. How can you begin to be more intentional and strategic about praying for our church leadership?

Prayer Requests (record, share, and follow up throughout the week. Use the LEAD App or CCB if possible.)

Closing Prayer (ask openly for a volunteer, encourage your people to step outside of their comfort zone regularly)