

RULE OF LIFE: PRAYER

November 17th, 2024

MESSAGE RECAP

This week's message emphasized the power and practice of prayer, highlighting how distractions often pull us away from consistent communication with God. Jesus modeled prayer throughout his life, we're invited to grow deeper in prayer in every part of our lives. There is a transformation in our souls when we can daily practice the presence of God through prayer. In this message, we focused on four aspects of prayer – borrowing words, bringing our own words, listening to God, and simply being in God's presence.

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. How are you...really?
2. What is one reason you give as to why you don't pray?
 - a. Borrowing W
 - b. How does using the words of others (songs, liturgies, psalms, etc.) help us connect with God, especially when we're not sure what to say?
3. Bringing Our Own Words to Speak to God.
 - a. Read Hebrews 10:19-20. What does it mean to approach God with confidence?
 - b. When you pray in your own words, do you feel more comfortable and confident? Why or why not?
4. Listening to God
 - a. Read 1 Samuel 3:10. Samuel's response to God was, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." What makes it difficult to pause and listen during prayer?
 - b. What is one practical way you could create more space to listen to God in your life this week?
 - c. In what ways can you learn to accept His response in the same way Paul does in 2 Corinthians 12:17-19?
5. Being with God (Contemplative Prayer)
 - a. Read Psalm 46:10. How do you feel about the idea of just "being" with God, without any specific agenda?
 - b. Describe a moment when you've experienced peace in simply being in God's presence.

Closing Activity: Please try to make time for this in your group.

Set a 4-minute timer. Practice just being with God in one of the four ways above. Afterward, encourage your group members to share anything they felt during that time if they're comfortable. Be open to sharing something that you're still processing or a feeling that you experienced. Finish your time praying as a group.