

Dig Deeper @Home – “Biblically Incorrect”

Complement to lesson on 07/25/21 – “Your Wish Is My Command, Says the Lord”

ICE BREAKER – Questions to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered

1. If a magical genie granted you three wishes... what would you wish for?
2. What is the most difficult or confusing Bible verse you have ever read?

MEMORIZE – 2 Timothy 3:16-17

“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.”

READ John 14: 8-20

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. What does the Holy Spirit draw your attention to as you read this passage? What sticks out to you?
 - a. Is anything repeated? Contrasted? Compared?
2. How does this passage point us to Jesus?
3. In verses 8-11 Jesus is stressing that to know Him is to know God the Father. He and the Father are one. Suppose a non-believing friend asked for clarification about your belief in a “Trinitarian” God... how would you explain this belief? What other Scriptures might be helpful?
(Hint: See Colossians 2:9-10, John 1:1-18, Matthew 28:18-20)
4. Verse 13 says that “Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do...” Does this mean we can simply pray for whatever we want, to win the lottery for example, and God will make it so? What is the significance of praying “in Jesus’ name?”
5. A similar message to verses 12-14 can be found in 1 John 5:13-16. Take a minute to read it. These verses in 1 John teach that the prayers that are granted are those prayed “according to (the Son of God’s) will.” Might this be a clue to what it looks like to pray “in Jesus’ name?” To pray according to His will? Praying in Jesus name is praying with His authority, for things that will honor and glorify Him. 1 John 5:16 immediately gives us an example of what this might look like when we are instructed to pray for a brother caught in sin. Concern for the spiritual wellbeing of others is certainly in line with the will of God! Do your prayers line up with this standard? What might it look like to align your prayer life more with the will of God?

Experiential activity – Praying the will of God

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

One way to be sure you are praying according to God’s will is to pray Scripture. God’s inspired Word will guide the way! According to the above verse in 1 Thessalonians we can see that the will of God for us is that we would be joyful, pray without ceasing, and give thanks. Are your prayers joyful, constant, and thankful?

This week, make an intentional effort to infuse your prayer life with these elements. Open the day with prayer, and instead of closing with an “Amen,” invite God to walk alongside you throughout the day as you maintain a posture that recognizes God’s presence in every moment of your life. Pray with joy, and express thanks for the many blessings you have been given, while acknowledging the hardships you may be going through.

Not “feeling it” on a particular day? Pray that God would mold your heart to align your desires with His desires for you. If you are completing this activity as a group, pray this transformation over one another.

If the goal is to align our prayer life with the will of God, this is a great place to start!

SING (Suggested songs to sing. Use these, or any favorites of the gathered group, to worship Jesus!)

Spirit of the Living God - <https://youtu.be/JYfzcYohWZg>

Audio Adrenaline : Speak to Me - <https://youtu.be/tdKZgBiHabE>

Sweet Hour of Prayer - (Mennonite Hymnal #296)

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the series:

Father God, open our eyes to your truth. (Psalm 119:17-18)

Do not allow us to walk in darkness. (Isaiah 42:16)

May your Word be as a lamp to our feet, and a light to our path. (Psalm 119:105)

Guide us by your Holy Spirit to walk in the truth, bringing glory to the name of Jesus! (John 16:13-14)