



SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

Prayer

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

LEADER PREP

CONVERSATION GUIDE

BOTTOM LINE

When it comes to prayer... just begin.

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 6:5-13

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To help students recognize that there is no secret formula to prayer, but that God wants us to simply be real with Him, and just begin praying.

THINK ABOUT THIS

Many Christians in today's world know that prayer is good and that it is something that God wants us to be doing, and yet, there are still many people who still do not feel comfortable praying by themselves, or even in front of others. For many of us it becomes a motivation piece. Since there are so many things we think prayer should and should not be, we get overwhelmed by each of these to where we decide not to pray altogether because there is too much to keep track of. Small Group is to be a place where students (and leaders) can experience grace in the area of prayer. As leaders, we are to encourage the group to practice prayer together in your safe environment and use positive reinforcement to help your students feel valued when it comes to their prayer life.

This guide is a suggestion, not a formula. Adjust the questions and activities as needed, and don't feel like you need to do, or ask, everything you see here.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

I know we covered a lot of important things about a heavy topic today. So let's jump in and start talking about bullying and the way it might impact our lives.

1. How would you define prayer?
2. If you could describe what your soul was to someone, what would you say?
3. How would you feel if you went a whole day without eating? Would you always notice it as much as not eating if you went a day without praying? (Probably not)
4. Do you think you would notice if your soul feeling weird if you spent one month without praying? Two months? Three months? (We can see this distance beginning to grow.)
5. What do you think God wants you to tell Him when you pray?
6. Would God rather you say the perfect words to Him when you pray, or for you to mess up a ton but mean have it come from your heart? Why?
7. What are some things that can keep you from praying? Why do these things get in the way?
8. What is one thing you want to pray for every day this week?

XP (EXPERIENCE)

Practice giving every student one chance to pray and encourage them the whole way through. If they really do not want to they can pass, but highly encourage them to and tell them how proud you are of them when they do it. We do not just want our students to be expected to pray, but we want to help walk with them so they can learn to pray. Love your students well in this area.