

Self-disclosure Questions/Icebreakers

What prayer requests have you seen God answer for you recently?

Scripture – James 5:13-20

Suggested Prayer

Lord, guide our conversation so that we will become skilled to dig up by prayer all that is ours in Christ.

Sermon Take-Away – If you need/want to review it, Pastor Colin talked about...

1. Faith prays with assurance when God has made the outcome known.
2. Faith prays with submission when God has kept the outcome hidden.
3. Application
 - a. Cultivate humility in the unknown
 - b. Cultivate assurance in what God has revealed

What was your take-away from this week's sermon?

Discussion Questions – Choose as few or as many as you'd like.

1. When prayer goes unanswered, some people blame themselves for not having enough faith. How does this attitude evidence a misunderstanding about the nature of what prayer *is* and how prayer *works*?

2. Pastor Colin said that sometimes God gives a strong sense of certainty in advance of an answered prayer. Have you ever experienced this? What were the circumstances?

3. Imagine a Christian in your LIFE Group is struggling with discouragement because, although he felt a strong sense that God would answer his prayer for the healing of his family member, God had not answered it, and the family member died. Now this individual is struggling to trust God. How would you help him?

4. How does prayer offered in submission to God evidence living faith in God? How did Jesus' prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane evidence his faith in God? (Mark 14:36)

5. Pastor Colin encouraged us to cultivate humility in our prayers in situations where we do not have certain knowledge about the outcome. What is the difference between cultivating humility and doubting God, between praying with submission and praying with unbelief?

Suggested Closing Prayer

Lord, we give thanks for the many treasures laid up for us in the gospel. Teach us to pray so that we will enjoy the benefit of every one and never lack their comfort.