

“One Another” Series

Week 08 : Pray for One Another

Check In:

Have you seen Pastor Steve’s recent update about Northview’s regathering plan? As you think about the weight of leadership responsibility that he and our church leaders are currently carrying, how do you think you could best pray for them? Discuss this for a few moments, then please take some time to pray for Pastor Steve and the leadership of Northview.

Discussion Questions : “Pray for One Another”

- [1] When you reflect on those you’ve known over the course of your life, who jumps out to you as a great person of prayer? What makes you think of them so quickly?
- [2] What two or three words would you use to best describe the current state of your prayer life?
- [3] What do you think — do people tend to pray more in bad times or good times? Why do you think that is, and how does that make you feel?
- [4] Why do you think we’re quick to pray for peoples’ physical needs, yet sometimes slow to pray for their spiritual needs? What could we do to better balance that?
- [5] Read Colossians 4:2-4 together — *“Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart. Pray for us, too, that God will give us many opportunities to speak about his mysterious plan concerning Christ. That is why I am here in chains. Pray that I will proclaim this message as clearly as I should.”*
- : Why did Paul emphasize praying with an “alert mind” and a “thankful heart”? How are these two issues connected with our ability to pray effectively?
- : Paul wasn’t shy about asking for prayer. Why do you think we’re sometimes slow to share our prayer requests with others?
- [6] How does it make you feel when you hear someone has given up on prayer? What advice would you offer someone who’s given up on praying for a specific person or personal situation?
- [7] Scripture makes it clear that God doesn’t always answer prayers the way we want Him to. Can you think of a time you received an answer to prayer that was not what you **wanted** but what you actually **needed**?
- [8] Is there a new prayer commitment or focus you sense God may be calling you to make? What is it, and what would it look like for you to put it into practice over the next 90 days?

As your Life Group closes, two thoughts —

FIRST: When people talk about prayer, the conversation sometimes ends up becoming about how much time they spend in prayer. Rather than focusing on the time, let's remember to think about the "why" – why we pray, and why prayer was so important to Jesus, the disciples and the early church. As we focus on the why, the amount of time we spend in prayer will quickly take care of itself.

SECOND: There's an excellent prayer app available in your phone or tablet app store called **Echo**. It's a great way to easily keep track of the people and circumstances you're praying about, and also has space to reflect on answered prayer. It can be used individually, or even shared with a group of friends. Make sure to check it out!