



BiG IDEA C-GROUP DiSCUSSiON GiDE

C-Groups that focus on the Big Idea for the week can use this guide to apply the message to life and take action. Feel free to use whatever parts of this guide best fit your group personality and time frame. Do NOT feel like you have to use every question. All verses, unless otherwise noted, are from the New International Version (NIV).

11.01/02.1 // Prayer...Getting to Know God Through Prayer

BiG iDEA: *Prayer is communicating with God; it is a privilege and we need it.*

// Ice Breaker _____

Option 1: Describe a time when God answered an important prayer in your life. How did the way God answered your prayer affect your relationship with Him?

Option 2: What was the best thing that happened to you in 2010?

// Questions for Discussion _____

1. What are some reasons we don't pray more? Mark all that apply.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> We don't know how. | <input type="checkbox"/> We don't think God really likes us. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> It won't do any good. | <input type="checkbox"/> We think we can do it all on our own. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I don't have time. | <input type="checkbox"/> God has bigger problems than what's in our lives. |

Have the group share what things keep them from praying.

Have them share what things help them to be more consistent in prayer.

2. **Philippians 4: 6 - 7** Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

What things should we pray about?

Is it harder for you to pray about little things or big things? Why do you think this is?

3. **1 Thessalonians 5: 16 - 18** Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus

What is God's will for you concerning prayer?

What do you think it means to 'pray continually'?

What should be our attitude when we pray?

4. **John 10: 27** My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.

How can prayer help us to know Jesus' voice?

How can prayer help us to follow Jesus?

5. **Philemon 1: 6 - 7** I pray that your partnership with us in the faith may be effective in deepening your understanding of every good thing we share for the sake of Christ. Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have refreshed the hearts of the Lord's people.

Who was Paul praying for?

Who has prayed for you? How did it affect your life?

6. **Psalm 46: 10** 'Be still and know that I am God...'

How can being still help you know God?

How do you think being still can help when you pray?

7. **Exodus 5: 22 - 23** Moses returned to the Lord and said, "Why, Lord, why have you brought trouble on this people? Is this why you sent me? Ever since I went to Pharaoh to speak in your name, he has brought trouble on this people, and you have not rescued your people at all."

Why do some people think that they may not be able to complain to the Lord in prayer?

How important do you think honesty is in prayer? Explain your answer.

8. **Hebrews 10: 21 - 22** and since we have a great priest (Jesus) over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.

What do you think it means that we have a great priest over the house of God?

How could this affect our attitude in praying?

How do you think God feels when we don't come to Him in prayer?

// Application

Commit to memory Philippians 4: 6 - 7

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Practice Thessalonians 5: 16 - 18 and pray continually.

// Prayer

- **That we would have a fuller knowledge of God.**
- **Have the group share their concerns and pray for them.**

