

COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Fall 2024 - Salty Church - "Faithful in Prayer"

Monday, Oct. 28 - Sunday, Nov. 3 (Week 8)

EMPHASIS FOR THE MONTH: **Model Vulnerability.** As you are continuing to build relationships and trust within your group, my encouragement to you as leaders is to begin to model vulnerability. This will be essential for your group to begin to take steps towards going deeper with one another. If your group members see you "going there" they are more likely to follow your lead and, "go there" as well.

ICE BREAKER: If you could have a one-on-one conversation with any biblical figure about their prayer life, who would it be and why?

CAB ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Our next Covenant Member Gathering is scheduled for this Sunday, November 3 at 12 PM. If you are a covenant member or being installed as a covenant member, please be sure to check your email for important information and to RSVP.
2. In place of weekly prayer gatherings for the month of October, we are encouraging everyone to take weekly walks around your neighborhood and pray for your neighbors and community. After Prayer Emphasis Month, we will begin to meet again for weekly prayer meetings in the month of November. We want to hear how your weekly prayer walks are going! Send us an email and share your stories with us. *No weekly prayer gatherings at church for the month of October.
3. The first Saturday of every month, the CAB Run Club will meet at the Wild Duck Pond in Ridgewood for a 3 mile round-trip run. Whether you are a longtime runner or just starting out, we would love to have you join us! RSVP in the Monday email newsletter to let us know you plan on joining us, or just show up at 9 AM this Saturday, November 2!
4. All men are invited to join our Men's Breakfast the first Saturday of every month at 9 AM, no sign up required! Join us this Saturday, November 2 at 9 AM here at church.

PRAYER FOR DISCUSSION: Leader or Co-Leader prays for the discussion time. Pray that the The Holy Spirit would assist in the conversing, processing, and listening of the discussion.

SERMON DISCUSSION TIME: Have someone read the passage: Luke 18:1-8, and then read this sermon summary to jog everyone's memory:

Pastor McKinney emphasizes the importance of prayer and outlined key characteristics of what it means to be a "salty Christian"—a disciple of Jesus. He referenced a powerful parable from Luke 18 about a widow who persistently sought justice from a godless and indifferent judge. Despite her vulnerability as a woman and a widow in a male-dominated society, her relentlessness led to her being heard. Pastor McKinney drew a parallel, explaining that unlike the widow, who was powerless, followers of Christ—referred to as God's elect—have the assurance that their cries are heard by a loving God who desires to help them. Throughout the sermon, Pastor McKinney emphasized five key traits of a disciple:



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placing Jesus first in our loves, being fearlessly generous, experiencing freedom to serve, being fishers of men, and being faithful in prayer. He encourages us not only to understand these traits as mere teachings but to ensure we live them out actively within our church community. He concluded by stressing the significance of prayer, particularly as it relates to the challenges and uncertainties of life, and exhorted us to remain steadfast and persistent in our relationship with God through prayer, just like the widow in the parable.

QUESTION #1: How would you describe your current prayer life? Do you find it easy or challenging to be consistent in prayer?

APPLICATION: *Identify one specific area in your prayer life where you would like to grow. Share with the group how you plan to commit to taking a step towards improvement this week.*

QUESTION #2: The sermon mentioned that our identity as God's elect is a reason to be confident in prayer. How does knowing you are chosen by God influence your approach to prayer?

QUESTION #3: What are some barriers that prevent us from being faithful in prayer? How can we overcome these?

APPLICATION: *Choose one barrier you face and brainstorm practical steps with the group to overcome it. Implement one of these steps this week.*

QUESTION #4: Share a personal story where you experienced God's faithfulness in response to persistent prayer. How did this experience shape your relationship with Him?

APPLICATION: *Encourage each group member to write down or text to the group a prayer request they have been persistently bringing to God. Commit to praying for each other's requests throughout the week.*

QUESTION #5: The sermon acknowledged that prayer can be hard and discouraging. How does this look for you and how do you handle moments when you feel like giving up on prayer?

APPLICATION: *Partner with someone in the group to check in with each other during the week, offering encouragement and support in your prayer lives.*

PRAY TOGETHER: Spend time taking **and recording** prayer requests and then pray together as a group (*I strongly encourage you to send out the prayer requests weekly to your group to keep everyone informed and in the loop on how to pray for one another throughout the week. This also makes it easier to check-in with people who have shared requests to see how the Lord has been working in their lives*).

