

"Pray"

"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place." 2 Chronicles 7:14-15

In the passage above, God says to humble yourself, pray, seek His face and turn from your wicked ways (repent). This comes with a promise, He says He will hear, forgive and heal.

The purpose of Connect Group is to connect all people into a growing relationship with Jesus. One of the best ways to be in a relationship with Him is to spend time talking with Him. Praying out loud for some people is sometimes intimidating and uncomfortable. During the group tonight, you will help people step out of their comfort zone and begin praying. Encourage each person to pray out loud, even if it is just "Thank you God, Amen". Sometimes if you don't know what to say, praying God's word back to Him is a great idea. For example, pray Psalm 91 if you would like to pray over someone for protection. Pray Psalm 51 if you or someone else needs help repenting of sin. You can also pray Paul's prayers that he prayed in all of his books. For example, Ephesians 3:14-21 is a powerful prayer to pray over your group to help them grow in their relationship with Jesus.

Pointers:

- 1. Have each person write down each other's prayer request.
- 2. Playing some background worship music helps to calm people's nerves.
- 3. It's ok to let the room to be silent for a while.
- 4. Allow the Holy Spirit to what He wants to do during this time.

Questions before praying:

- 1. How is your relationship with Jesus been this week?
- 2. What is something that you are currently struggling with?
- 3. What is your next step in your relationship with Jesus?

Announcements:

We will be spending about 5 weeks in the book of Malachi. Encourage your group to spend time reading and studying this book before we start this series.

