

TALKING WITH GOD?

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2020

Prayer and Relationship
John 15:5–15

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Have you ever prayed for something and didn't get the answer you wanted? We have this weird misconception of prayer that it's just going to God with demands of what we want. Or that it's a bargaining tool, 'God, I'll do this if You give me this.' And when it doesn't work out as we planned, we try to find a magic formula or to pray longer or harder. But doing this reduces prayer to just another religious activity, a check of a box to gain God's approval. Prayer does not come out of religious obligation. Prayer is the privilege of an intimate relationship. Prayer is the sincere and genuine conviction of a person who is right with God because he/she has a personal relationship with Jesus.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Think back to Sunday's message. What do you remember? Review your notes if you have them. If you're with a life group, talk with them about anything you found memorable or confusing.
2. Do you view prayer more as an obligation or a privilege? How so?
3. Read John 15:5–15. Why is it important to be deliberate about our intention to be close to Jesus?
4. What does John 15:10 say is needed to remain in Christ's love?
5. Are you remaining (abiding) in Christ? What could you do to obey Jesus by abiding in Him?
6. Read James 5:13–16. James says we should pray whether we are in trouble, happy, or sick. Do you find that you pray more when you are happy and thankful or when you are in need?
7. What's your biggest take away from Sunday's message and today's discussion?

NOW WHAT?

This week, start each day with 10 minutes of intentional REMAINING.

Adoration (praise)
Confession (agreement)
Thanksgiving (gratitude)
Supplication (ask)

