

Prayer

Community Group Leaders Guide

Luke 18:9-14 /// Week of April 28

Today's big idea: Prayer can be restricted.

With the first question realize that most learning is caught, not taught. Also, some may not have had anyone modeling prayer in their lives, or they may have learned from movies or shows.

- Who has taught you the most about prayer and what have you learned?
- Review the Community Group Guidelines together.
- What did you hear in the sermon that caught your attention?
- Someone pray that God would help us hear from him.

Head

This short story would be a great opportunity to invite another group member to lead the storytelling.

- Use Bible Storytelling to tell the story of the Pharisee and the tax collector praying.
- Retell the story together as a group.
- Read the story from Luke 18:9-14 in the Bible.
- What was the point that Jesus was teaching through this parable?
- What was the focus and goal of the Pharisee when he prayed?
- What was the focus and goal of the tax collector when he prayed?

Heart

As we try to help your group think more deeply about the story and themselves be ready to model transparency for them.

- What did their posture say about their hearts and their prayers?
- Why is it unusual that the tax collector was the hero of the story? What principle(s) can we learn from that?
- Jesus told this story because of self-righteousness and pride. What restricts your prayers even if it isn't these two things?

Hands

Help people think creatively about how to apply these truths to their lives. Take note of what they mention and find ways to follow up with them through the week.

- What is a step of faith you can take to overcome whatever is restricting your prayers?
- How could you experiment with posture in prayer this week?
- How can you share the truth from this study with someone else?

Next Week:

Again, next week's Bible story is shorter. Invite someone who hasn't done Bible storytelling to try it with this text next week.

Prayer, Luke 18:1-8