

Dig Deeper @Home – "Letters To/From Finland" Complement to lesson on 8/25/24 – "Delight in God's Presence"

ICE BREAKER – Questions to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered

- 1. Who is one person whose presence you delight in? What is it about them?
- 2. What is your favorite place in the house you currently dwell in? Your childhood home?

MEMORIZE – Psalm 27:4

One thing I have asked of the Lord, that will I seek after; That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, To gaze upon the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in His temple.

READ – Matthew 6:6

Questions to ponder/discuss:

- 1. Re-scan the text and consider...
 - a. What did the Holy Spirit cause to "jump off the page" as you read?
 - b. Is anything repeated? Contrasted? Compared? (If so... why might that be?)
 - c. What in these verses is interesting? What is confusing?
 - d. What are the verses revealing about God?
 - e. What are the verses saying about people?
 - f. In light of these, what needs to change in your life? What are you already doing well?
- 2. What does this verse mean for you?
 - a. What is your time and place to meet with God?
 - b. Jesus says, "go into your room and shut the door." What do you need to shut out?
- 3. Twice Jesus refers to God as "Father."

 Why does Jesus want us to know that we can come to God as our Father?
- 4. What do you think is the reward that Jesus promised?

EXPERIENTIAL ACTIVITY – The ACTS Prayer Model

ACTS is an acronym that stands for adoration, confession, thanksgiving, and supplication. This acrostic guide to prayer is a simple and Bible-based way to pray holistically, and in harmony with the themes of the Lord's prayer. (Matthew 6:9-13) Give it a shot, both individually and together as a group!

A – Adoration: Praise God for the wonder of who He is!

He is gracious, merciful, wise... Add your own words of praise!

C – Confession: Ask the Holy Spirit to bring to mind what you need to confess.

Selfishness, Impatience, Unkindness, etc.

T – Thanksgiving: Thank God for His bountiful gifts!

Pick 5... Pick 50... the options are limitless!

S - Supplication (Asking God/Requests)

For personal needs, family, neighbors/work/school friends, persons who don't know Christ, Church - Pastors, teachers, hospitality team, etc. Ask God to bless our Church Gatherings. Pray for national and world concerns.

SING

How Great Thou Art-> https://youtu.be/bjWZz90hj4I?si=a-H4C4C7JQi4jPz4
God With Us -> https://youtu.be/dJjT-LMnIs?si=4Cl8N8nRj4rrRO3U
Jesus Strong and Kind -> https://youtu.be/fKUhjiixcZg?si=xwE7ASo9H3powP6X

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the message: The Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be you name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."