

DISCUSSION GUIDE

INSTRUCTIONS ON PRAYER
The Gospel of John — Week 52

ICEBREAKER: Which movies have you watched over and over again?

OVERVIEW: Unfortunately, many Christians view prayer as a burdensome responsibility. It is like exercise. “It is something I’m supposed to do, I need to do, I want to do, but it is a drag. And who has the time?” But prayer is the believer’s greatest gift. Through prayer we have immediate, constant access to the Creator of the universe. We have help with all of our problems. We have power to fulfill our purpose. We are too busy NOT to pray! In this discussion we will go deeper with how to have an effective prayer life.

1. Read John 14:12-14. What insight, principle, or observation from this week-end’s message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday’s message?)
2. What did Jesus mean, “And he will do even greater works than these”?
3. What does it mean to pray in Jesus’ name?
4. Read Daniel 6:10-11. What is the background of this story (refer to verses 1-9)?

5. How did this story turn out?
6. What can we learn about prayer from Daniel’s example?
7. What makes prayer so difficult?
8. How would you describe your prayer life — “vibrant,” “needs improvement,” or “on life support”? Explain.
9. How do you handle it when God doesn’t answer your prayer?
10. What is one of your consistent prayer requests lately?

The Last Word: "To convert a pagan is no problem. To make a Christian pray you must move heaven on earth."