

Sunday, April 25, 2021 - "We Are - Week 3: We Are Committed to Prayer" - Doug Kempton

Key Passages: Luke 6:12-13, 17-19

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- A Culture of Prayer
  - Where everything we do is birthed in prayer, covered in prayer, and celebrated in prayer
  - We are still on a journey as a church
- Lord, Teach Us to Pray - by Andrew Murray
  - Read this book (Pastor Doug's recommendation)
  - Disciples asked this of Jesus...Jesus was dependent on God through prayer
  - "Prayer is not a drudgery. Prayer is not a burden. It is a divine privilege."
    - God inviting us into relationship with Him
    - You talk to him, He talks to you
- Doug's story about going to KAA (Kids Across America)
  - A "bad" sermon led to hundreds of kids placing their faith in Jesus
  - The movement of the Spirit unleashed by all of that prayers that were prayed
- Luke 6:12-13, 17-19
  - Jesus modeled a way of life and of ministry (Jesus prayed all night before selecting his disciples)
  - A way we are supposed to move before we act
- Are there some decisions that require us to stay up all night in prayer?
- Jesus models
  - 1) Prayer 2) Community 3) Ministry/Action
  - Some times we flip this order
- A culture of prayer starts with an earnest desire to pray
- Hearing God's voice is a discipline to be learned
  - Luke 6:18
  - "How you listen now determines how you hear later" - Doug Kempton
- Practical application and advice
  - Be vigilant in prayer (pray about everything)
  - Pay attention to your disposition (consolation or desolation in your spirit?)
  - Invite others to the process
  - Trust in Jesus (not a game, His ways our better than ours)
  - Pray for others more than yourself (soften hearts towards them, hear God's voice)
  - Pray the Scriptures over your family, your friends, and your enemies
- How can you join culture of prayer?
  - Prayer tab on the Grace website
  - Pre-service prayer
  - 9:30 AM church wide prayer (text: 930PRAYER to 313-777-8270...periodic prayer texts)

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. How is your prayer life going? What's going well? How is God calling you engage more fully?
2. How have you seen your relationship with God grow through prayer?
3. How have your relationships with others been affected by prayer?
4. What are some things in your life that might require more consistent, fervent, vigilant prayer right now? How will engage?
5. Which piece of practical advice do you feel like you need to heed currently? Why do you think that is?
6. Who do you need to invite into your prayer life? How will that affect your relationship with them?
7. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or sermon?

**\*\*15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-**

Mon: Exodus 16 Tues: Exodus 17 Wed: Exodus 18 Thurs: Exodus 19 Fri: Exodus 20

Songs from the weekend: [Raise A Hallelujah - *Bethel Music*] - [Waymaker - *Sinach*] - [Living Hope - *Phil Wickham*] - [Worthy of It All - *Bethel Music*]