



September 5th Discussion Guide

Prayer - James 5:13 - 18

This is a 5 week study in the Book of James. Content for this discussion guide is based on the sermon, so participation in weekly worship will enhance the conversation on this topic. If you want to watch the sermon it can be viewed at [Sermons Archive - Good Shepherd Church Naperville](#)

Prayer

Open your group in prayer.

Icebreaker (10 min)

1. Share any plans you have/had for the Labor Day weekend.
2. Where have you seen God at work this past week?

Discussion (45 min)

1. Read James 5:13-18.
 - a. Discuss what you learned about prayer from James in this passage. (When? How? What to expect?)
 - b. Share any prayer habits you do on a regular basis.
 - c. Tell your group about something you prayed for and had an instant answer or result.
2. Read 1 Kings 18:41-46.
 - a. How many times did the servant have to go back to look to the sea while Elijah prayed until a small rain cloud started to form? How can this relate to our prayer life?
 - b. What circumstance have you had where you prayed for a long time before anything happened? Are you still waiting?
 - c. Read Romans 8:28 and Micah 7:7. How can we stay encouraged while we wait for God to respond to our prayers?
3. Read 1 Kings 19:1-10:
 - a. Elijah felt empty and alone. How do these feelings hinder us from praying, feeling God's presence, and hearing Him speak?
 - b. Read 1 Kings 19:14-18. How did God respond to Elijah and encourage him? How does this encourage you to persevere in prayer?
4. Read 1 Kings 19:11-13:
 - a. What was Elijah's struggle this time as he waited to hear from God?
 - b. What loudness, distraction, or chaos do you have in your life that is keeping you from hearing God's gentle whisper?
5. Read Ephesians 6:18 and Matthew 18:19-20. What tips do these verses give you about how you can pray?

Application question: How will you persevere and be silent enough in prayer this week to trust that God is always working, speaking and moving in your life and in your circumstances?

LORD, thank you for the powerful connection to You through prayer! Even if we can't see it, You are working! Even if we can't hear it, You are speaking! Even if we can't feel it, you are moving! Give us strength in our struggle to pray knowing that You will lift us up in due time!

