

Prayer Experience #3

Participant's Guide

Purpose: To have a meaningful experience of extended prayer together that focuses on being the people of God – God's *prototype* of His Kingdom right here and right now.

OPENING TO GOD:

- **Ephesians 1:3** "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ."
- **Psalms 73:25-26** "Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever."
- **Psalms 143:8** "Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you."
- **Isaiah 43:1a** "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name and you are mine."
- **Lamentations 3:22-23** "Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."
- **John 1:14** "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."
- **I John 3:1** "See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called the children of God."

LISTENING TO GOD through SCRIPTURE:

- "As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all." (Eph. 4:1-6)
- What resonates with you in this passage?

PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER'S SPIRITUAL GROWTH:

- Write down any area where you sense God is calling you to grow spiritually right now. Are you growing more deeply into your relationship with Christ? Are you loving others well? Are you an ambassador for the Kingdom of God in your daily living? (Use this space to write down your own thoughts as well as the prayer requests shared by your group.)

PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH

- For our church staff – that they would abide in Christ and lead/serve from a place of attentiveness to the Spirit.
- For our church unity – the Spirit-empowered ability to be “different together” in a culture so deeply divided.
- For our love for one another – that we would live out Ephesians 4 in authentic ways with humility, gentleness, patience and love and unity.
- For our mission – bringing His kingdom with its priorities and purposes into our community – “inviting diverse and disconnected people to passionately follow Christ together.”

“May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.” AMEN.
(Romans 15:5-6)