

## Life Group Discussion Questions

**Sermon Series:** If My People...

**Sermon Title:** How Do We Pray and Seek God's Face

**Sermon Date:** 2-28-21

**Gospel Gain:** Prioritize the prayerful pursuit of God and His will.

### Gathering Together (Icebreaker)

- When do most people pray and why do they pray at those times?
- What barriers stand in the way of creating a regular time of personal prayer with God?

### Growing Together (Truth/Equipping)

- This is a series based on 2 Chronicles 7:14. We will spend 5 weeks looking at the key phrases in this verse that God shared with Solomon after building the temple. We will seek to answer four questions – 1) How do we humble ourselves before God? 2) How do we pray and seek God's face? 3) How do we turn from our wicked ways? 4) How do we apply God's forgiveness and healing?

***2 Chronicles 7:14 - if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.***

- Read **Matthew 7:7-11**.
- What do you see described in these verses about prayer?
- What principles about prayer stand out in these verses?

### God invites His children to keep coming to Him.

- Read **Matthew 7:7-8**.
- How is prayer intended to be a journey with God more than just getting answers?
- How can prayer build our relationship with God?
- What do you think Jesus is teaching when he says to ask, seek and knock?

- The original Greek of this text is about a continual asking, continual seeking and continual knocking. Why is that significant?
- Talk about this statement – ***God will either give you what you ask for or something far better.***
- Read **Psalm 63:1**.
- What does this verse say about developing a desperation for God in our life?
- Midwesterners are self-sufficient, get-it-done kind of people. How does this hinder our need for God on a regular basis?
- How can we develop a measure of desperation for God in our everyday life?
- Interact with this quote by A.W. Tozer- ***What I am anxious to see in Christian believers is a beautiful paradox. I want to see in them the joy of finding God while at the same time they are blessedly pursuing Him. I want to see in them the great joy of having God yet always wanting Him.***
- Read **Matthew 26:36-46**. What do you learn about Jesus and His prayer life?

#### **God provides what His children need.**

- Read **Matthew 7:9-11**.
- What do we learn about a father's love for His children?
- How does that relate to our prayer life?
- God desires to give His children good gifts. Why does trusting God become so challenging if this principle is true?

#### **Getting Real with One Another (Accessibility)**

- How can you create a reminder to be in regular prayer with God? Share ideas of possible reminders as a group and then encourage each other to ask, seek and knock more than just at times of crisis.

#### **Group Prayer Time (Supplication)**

- Share prayer requests with one another and take time to pray together.
- Pray that the people of Oakwood Church would continue to develop a passion for God and compassion for people.