

Community GROUP QUESTIONS
Prayer
“Brokenness in Prayer”
Week of June 18, 2017

CENTRAL TRUTH: Brokenness in prayer invites God’s healing.

GETTING STARTED

1. Share a season of your life or a piece of your story, current or past, in which you experienced brokenness. What were the circumstances, your fears, your anxieties through that time? (**We all have brokenness**)

GOING DEEPER

2. Family and church experiences shape so much of who we are and how we interact with God. Some experiences are learned intentionally and some are just picked up.
 - a. What kind of background did you grow up with when it came to communicating with God? Is this something you grow up doing?
 - b. Thinking back on your previous experiences, how have those early views of prayer and vulnerability with God shaped how you pray and commune with God?
3. We all experience seasons of hurt and brokenness. Life on this side of heaven just has a way of burdening us with baggage and accruing scars. God wants to make himself known during those seasons of pain and allow us to unburden ourselves with our hurts.
 - a. Are you presently in a season of brokenness or pain? If so, how have you been able to be real and honest with God about your experiences? Do you talk to trusted members in your community? Pray? Seek counseling?
 - b. Would you be willing to share those raw pieces of your life now in this setting?
4. Shifting our focus from our pain and our experiences onto God can be incredibly difficult. It is one thing to be in pain, but it something else entirely when we give it others.
 - a. What obstacles keep you from bring your emotions to God? What fears or shame prevent you from leaving that pain behind and allowing God to carry it for you?
5. Oftentimes our pain or brokenness has shaped us to be who we are and to offer that up for change would be changing our very identity.
 - a. Describe how your experiences of brokenness have shaped your views on life, family, and vocation. Openly dream about how things would be different if you weren’t to live life with that brokenness lens of life.
 - b. What is one thing you could actively do to participate in the process of God removing that pain from your life? Set up weekly conversations with a spouse or friends to talk through those hurts, set aside time every day to pray, seek out a person who has greatly shaped your life and meet up, start a journal, etc

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TAKING IT HOME

6. PRAYER: Spend time in prayer together, lifting up each other's brokenness, encouraging one another as they vulnerably share. We may not always hear God's voice clearly in our times of hurt, often he speaks through the words of those around us.