

**For the week of January 14-20, 2018**

**Based on Pastor Tucker's message from January 14**

## **Live Like Jesus**

**Best Way to Prepare for Your Group?** Listen to the teaching and read the appropriate scripture. Please give emphasis to the latter. These notes are prepared on Fridays. Sometimes, the sermon gets modified right before service. So, allow for flexibility. Remember, your time together isn't meant to be a re-teaching of the most recent lesson. Instead, the discussion points and questions are designed to encourage group members to share insight and application of what they've learned from God's Word—and thereby grow closer to the Lord and each other.

### **[Format for the Evening]**

#### **WELCOME:**

Get to know each other. Re-introduce yourselves if need be and welcome any newcomers. Invite those new to the group to share a little about their lives and Christian experience. Spend some time talking about real-life issues that may have come up during prayer or fellowship time the previous week. These Community Groups are more than Bible studies. They are designed to help believers form deep and lasting relationships.

#### **KEY PASSAGE:**

*"In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen. "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you." –Matthew 6:9-14*

#### **THINK ABOUT THE TEACHING: Our prayer life indicates much about our closeness to God.**

Prayer indicates attitudes toward people. Prayer reveals hopes, and hurts, and struggles. If we learned to pray like Jesus we would be much closer to living like Jesus. The foundation of His prayer is grounded in a love for God. It was reflected throughout His life—a life that was a slow unfolding of love in action.

#### **TALK ABOUT THE TEACHING:**

1. How can every prayer be a reflection of our love for God?
2. How can prayers for our "daily bread" incorporate our love for God?
3. Discuss the ways impatience influences our prayer lives.

**THINK ABOUT THE TEACHING: Jesus doesn't promise to instantly transform us.**

Jesus was a model of slow progress. He waited thirty years before He began His ministry. After His ministry started He made it a point to not let the word get out too quickly. He healed people and told them to keep His identity a secret. People asked Him if He was indeed the coming Messiah and He wouldn't tell them. At one point a crowd of excited followers tried to crown Him as their king and He wouldn't let them (John 6:15). Jesus was never concerned with instant growth, social hype, or personal fame, and He certainly didn't promise it for any of His followers. His example of patient progress seems contrary to our fast-paced culture with its cult of instant gratification. In our demanding world, impatience often causes us to quit things far too soon.

**TALK ABOUT THE TEACHING:**

1. What have you given up on in life because you grew impatient with the process?
2. How can a fear of mistakes keep us from God's plan for us to live like Jesus?
3. What is the best way for a Christian to handle failures?

**THING ABOUT THE TEACHING: God makes us like Him, by creating us to be with Him.**

The Bible makes it very clear, Jesus is not one of many ways to get to the Father, He is the only way (John 14:6). The more time we spend with Jesus, the more we become like Him, and the more we are able to fulfill our deepest longing—to have a relationship with our Creator.

**TALK ABOUT THE TEACHING:**

1. What are some small, daily steps you can take to become more like Jesus?
2. How does your ability to forgive those who have wronged you reflect your relationship with Jesus and ability to live like Him?
3. If forgiveness is hard what can make it easier?

**PRAY TOGETHER:** Please pray that God would show believers how to develop stronger prayer lives, so that every day becomes a series of choices to seek Jesus' will and follow it. Pray that we will be able to overcome our culture's tendency to demand instant gratification. Ask that God will make us a patient people who are willing to devote time to the slow process of spiritual growth.

**TRANSITION TO REAL LIFE:**

Before you head home take some time to talk about the week ahead, make note of any needs and prayer requests, and enjoy each other's company. That's what family does.

**Note:** Pastor Tucker welcomes your feedback. Please email him at [tucker@calvaryboise.com](mailto:tucker@calvaryboise.com) with your insight.

## **WEEKLY PRAYER REQUESTS**

*"I will praise You, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will tell of all Your marvelous works." –Psalm 9:1*

"...it is in the process of being worshipped that God communicates His presence to men. It is not of course the only way. But for many people at many times the 'fair beauty of the Lord' is revealed chiefly or only while they worship Him together...I think we delight to praise what we enjoy because the praise not merely expresses but completes the enjoyment; it is its appointed consummation...Fully to enjoy is to glorify. In commanding us to glorify Him, God is inviting us to enjoy Him." –C.S. Lewis, *Reflections on the Psalms*

### **Our Core Group:**

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### **Our International Missions**

- Several of our missionaries including the Fouts family and Natalie Bridges in Romania are planning to return to the states next summer. Pray all their needs are met so that can happen without affecting the work they leave behind. Also pray that God blesses their journeys and gives them rest.
- The 52.4 team and Sarah Van Brunt, Send Hope Administrator, are currently traveling to India. Please keep the team in prayer as they travel throughout India over the next two weeks and visit the different Homes of Hope.
- Ask for God's mercy to continue to be upon Send Hope as it becomes an independent 501(c)3. There are a lot of logistical pieces to the puzzle. Please continue to pray for our stateside operational costs and payment processing transition. We are grateful for the grace God has given. Ask that our leadership will have complete and clear direction on all decisions.

### **Our Local Ministry: Small Groups**

- Please pray that all the groups will be blessed. Ask that strong bonds of friendship will be formed as people come together to learn more about the Bible. Ask the Lord to bless all new Bible Studies and Community Groups with an extra measure of grace. Pray that all leaders will have wisdom, discernment, and the ability to know and carry out God's will for the group.