

**Prayerful Dependence
Discussion Questions
July 27, 2017**



1. Is prayer normal or abnormal in your church?

We took a poll, and the answer was overwhelmingly positive that prayer was normal in the church.

2. If you saw a group of people praying together, would you be surprised or would you recognize the prayer as a normal occurrence in your church?

Would consider it normal

It happens in the prayer room, occurs all of a sudden in various places around the church, mention prayer requests in the bulletin, and we discussed inviting people to the altar on a more regular basis

3. A low score typically indicates a longing by your people for more instruction on how to pray and connect to God daily. What are some ways we can teach on how to pray and connect with God daily?

Some said they had had conversations with people who did not know how to pray. Others mentioned that they had seen some growth in the habit of prayer around the church.

Have a study on the subject of prayer.

Teach on the practice of alone time with God.

Mention the prayer room, and insure it is ready to be used.

Develop a buddy system, where people can pray for each other.

Continue to encourage prayer in small group meetings

Keep a prayer list and a record of answered prayer

Discussed promoting the continued effectiveness of informal prayer

Discussion then moved into listing some ways to promote prayer

Teaching on the pattern of the Lord's prayer

Use popcorn prayer throughout the day

Emphasis on praying about anything

Learning to listen in prayer is an important part

Praying for other is a great way to remember others who are in need

4. The way to increase spontaneous prayer is not to plan for it. Spontaneous prayer is a symptom of a value that has been ingrained in the church. What are some ways to teach and allow people to catch the value of prayer?

Be approachable enough that people would be comfortable talking to you

Use the testimony time in the service to emphasize the power of answered prayer

Organize some large group concerts of prayer

Deal with unanswered prayer

Great help to listen to what others are praying for, highlight answered prayer

Prayer is a reminder about our own need for praying about our own heart condition

Pray kingdom building praying, for spiritual healing, in accordance with God's will, and send out a regular prayer report

5. First, does your church have a means for those in the community to share prayer requests with the church or is it simply by them sharing a need with a member?

We have the prayer chain, prayer time in life groups, we offer to pray for others regularly, have access to the Missionary Church national prayer line, can add an invitation to send prayer requests on the church answering machine message, on the website, and making mention of the welcome card as a place to share prayer requests

Talked about who would follow up on the prayer requests

Publicize the regular prayer meeting that currently takes place

Use tech more to gather, distribute, and follow up on prayer requests

6. Read Psalm 34 and prayerfully consider how you can encourage your congregation to share with your local community about God's provision. Then, based on Psalm 34, what are some ways we can share with our local community about God's provision.

How can we bear witness to God's faithfulness? vs. 1-7

Praise the Lord always

Give Him credit

God is listening – “He has our back”

The fact that we have hope

What kind of invitations can we offer? vs. 8-14

To actually pray, just do it....

Avoid blaming God

Be joyful rather than complaining

Prayer originates from God

What kind of help can we present? vs. 15-22

Encouragement to watch our tongue

Reminder to trust God