



Group Leader Guide “Humble Prayer” - Revival November 15, 2020

Group Creed

We come together as a Group with the goal of Spiritual Formation; encouraging one another to become the same kind of person that Jesus is, so that we can live out every part of our lives inside of His Kingdom.

// Message Summary

This week, Teaching Pastor **Ben Foote** continues with week 3 of “**Revival**,” talking about humble prayer. Too often, we tend to treat God like a genie in a bottle or a personal administrator, expecting Him to give us whatever we want and bless the plans we have for our lives. However, Scripture, and especially Jesus, shows us how to pray differently by humbling ourselves and surrendering our wants and plans to God in order for Him to do what He wants through our lives.

// Biblical Background

Isaiah: Isaiah was a prophet of the Lord to the nations of Judah and Israel from about 740-687 BC. Judah was one of the kingdoms that the nation of Israel split into (the other one keeping the name “Israel”). This was during the time that the Assyrian empire was expanding. The northern kingdom of Israel would fall to Assyria because of their wicked ways. Isaiah was essentially calling on the kings of Judah to reform their ways so that they did not end up like Israel. At one point, Assyria even attacks Jerusalem (ch. 29), but the king at the time, Hezekiah, humbly asks God to deliver them, and He does. However, Hezekiah later dishonors God by trying to politically pander to Babylon. Isaiah then prophesies that Babylon will eventually destroy Jerusalem, which it does some 100 years later.

Jesus’ Distress in the Garden: Matthew 26:38

quotes Jesus as saying He was in so much distress that He was at the point of death. **Luke 22:44** describes His agony by saying that His sweat was like drops of blood. This *could* mean that Jesus was suffering from hematomidrosis, which is a condition caused by severe physical or emotional stress where certain blood vessels in the skin burst. The blood then seeps out through the pores of the skin.

// In Preparation

This week, practice what Ben challenged everyone to do, but specifically for your group. Often as leaders, we have a specific vision or desire for what and how we want our group to be. We want it to make us, as the leader, feel a certain way, or accomplish something in our own lives. Pray this week that God will do what He wants to do within your group. Humbly surrender your own goals, vision, and desires for your group to Him and tell Him that you want to want what He wants for your group.

// References

Fee, G. D., & Stuart, D. K. (2014). *How to read the Bible book by book: a guided tour*. Zondervan.



Group Discussion Questions “Humble Prayer” - Revival November 15, 2020

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// Bible References

2 Chronicles 7:14-15; Isaiah 1:15-18; Matthew 6:8-10; Matthew 26:38-39

// Message Screenshots

- 1) Humble ourselves
- 2) Pray
- 3) Seek God’s face
- 4) Turn from any wicked ways
- “Got what you asked for..”
- God doesn’t listen to prideful prayer.
- Prideful Prayer: “God, give me what I want. Amen.”
- Prideful Prayer: “God, I made a plan all by myself. Can you bless it now? Amen.”
- God listens to Humble Prayer.
- “God, help me to want what you want.”
- Humble Prayer: God, please help me to want what you want. Please help me to obey you, whenever I want something different. And please let your will be done in my life. Amen.

// Community Questions

1. What would you like to share with the group about your reflection on how God has pulled you through hard times in the past?
2. Have you ever bought something that you later regretted buying?

// Core Questions

1. What is something that you have wanted in your life, and even prayed for, that ended up not being what you needed?
2. How did you know that it wasn’t what you needed?
3. What is something that you want currently in your life that you aren’t completely sure is in line with what God wants in your life?
4. What might it look like to humbly surrender that want to God and ask for what He wants?
5. What plans do you have for your life?
6. Are those plans solely what you want or do they line up with what God wants?
7. What might have to be sacrificed in your life in order to let go of those plans in order to fulfill God’s plan for your life, whatever that may be?
8. Have you ever obeyed God even when you wanted something different? How did it turn



out for you?

9. What might Colorado, and even our nation, look like if Flatirons Community Church was known as a group of people who wanted what God wanted and sought to accomplish what God wanted accomplished?
10. Are you on board with this vision? Why or why not?

// Challenge

The challenge this week is the same that Ben proposed: practice humble prayer in your life. Pray this prayer whenever you find yourself in crisis this week, or you have a big decision to make, or you feel stuck, etc:

God, please help me to want what you want. Please help me to obey you, whenever I want something different. And please let your will be done in my life. Amen.



Student Group Discussion Questions
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// Parent Resource

Talk with your student about a time that you tried to use your prayer to manipulate God. How could you change the way you pray so that doesn't happen?

// Discussion Questions

1. Play 2 truths and a lie.
Tie the game into how we tell stories about ourselves all the time. How can you trust what other people are saying?
2. Are there times when you try to manipulate your parents into doing something?
What happened?
3. What things have you asked God to bail you out of recently?
How does that impact the way you view God?
4. Read **Matthew 6:5-8**
What is happening in this passage?
What does this passage show you about praying with humility?
Here is how to start praying with humility:
Read **Matthew 6:9-13**
Emphasize praying for God's will to be done.
This is a proactive prayer that asks God to lead our life instead of asking Him to bail us out.
5. After hearing all that how do you approach God in prayer?

// Pray

Pray the Lord's Prayer with your group.

// Leader Feedback

Please let us know how these questions went over in your group. Email your feedback to caleb_flowers@flatironschurch.com