



## Life Group Notes: 'Prayer - The Power of Relationship' Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2019

### READ THESE VERSES TOGETHER:

#### **PSALM 145:18:**

*The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.*

#### **JEREMIAH 33:3:**

*Call to me and I will answer you and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known.*

#### **JAMES 4:8a:**

*Draw near to God and he will draw near to you*

#### **HEBREWS 4:16:**

*Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*

### INTRODUCTION:

God's desire has always been to draw close to us and allow him to be part of our lives. God is attracted to hunger for him and vulnerability. When we choose to draw near, he promises he will draw near to us.

So, what does it mean to draw near to God? It means spending time with him in praise and worship. God is very attracted to a heart full of gratitude and thankfulness. Psalm 75:1 says: "*We give thanks to you, O God; for your name is near. We recount your wondrous deeds.*". It also means talking to him and learning to keep talking to him all throughout the day, "*praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication.*" *Ephesians 6:18*. Another important key is reading the Bible. "*You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.*" *John 8:32*.

Drawing near to God is not about our feelings or emotions, which can change all the time. It is about making a conscious decision to invite him to be part of our lives, no matter what the circumstances are. It is about being aware that our deepest needs, our deepest desires, our deepest fulfilment, are only found in Jesus. It is knowing that we need Holy Spirit to help us, guide us, convict us, teach us and give us fresh understanding of his love for us on a continual basis. It is taking time to listen to him, allowing him to speak to us and responding to his direction.

God is attracted to hunger for him! He desires to have an intimate relationship with every one of us. It is our responsibility as individuals to cultivate and develop that relationship with him. "*Draw near to God and he will draw near to you,*" *James 4:8*.

## **ACTION POINTS & PRAYER:**

This year in Life Groups we will be focusing more attention on prayer. The Bible instructs us to '*pray without ceasing*' (1 Thessalonians 5:17). Prayer is the engine room of the church and without prayer, we will not see God do significant things through us personally, through the corporate church and in our city and nations.

Please spend some time praying together. There are some prayer points below to concentrate on in your groups. Please also to continue to pray about these during the next month.

### **King's Church family:**

- Pray that everyone at King's Church will experience a deeper relationship with Jesus and a hunger to know him and worship him more.
- Pray for each other and that the unity, friendships and love will be strengthened in our Life Groups and in all our King's Church family.

### **King's Church Leaders:**

- **Pastor Phil and the Elders** – pray for Godly wisdom, strength and protection for Phil, Steve, Jean Louis and Lee and their families. It is important to continue to pray for our church leaders.

### **Marriage Course:**

The Marriage Course started in May – pray that marriages, relationships and families will be strengthened as people learn more about marriage with Jesus at the centre.

*(If you are not signed up, please consider volunteering with the set up/re-setting of the main hall – contact Steve & Liliana Cassidy or the church office for more details).*

### **Outreach:**

- **King's on the Streets & Mission Cambridge:** Pray that all the seeds sown in so many people's lives will bear good fruit and that many will be impacted and changed by the good news and love of Jesus.
- **Alpha Course - Eddington:** As the course finishes this month, pray that those who had an encounter with Jesus will continue to develop in their faith and that the good seed of the gospel will continue to grow in the lives of all the attendees.
- **Evangelism 360:** Pray that more people will be emboldened and empowered to share Jesus with others. Please consider signing up for the next one-day course, which is on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June.

**The UK:** Continue to pray and declare biblical truth over our nation!

It is important that we pray in unity and do not allow our own personal opinions to cloud our prayers when praying for God's will to be done in our nation. Remember also that the Bible urges us to pray for all of those in authority (1 Timothy 1:1-4).