

## Life Group Questions

### Skeptics Wanted: Why do we Pray?

April 17th, 2016

**Big Idea: Jesus gives us an outline for what our prayers should look like.**



### Welcome (You to Me, Me to You)

1. Can you think of a time God answered a prayer? What was it?

### Worship (Us to God)

1. Together as a group read the Lord's Prayer, Matthew 6:9-13.

### Word (God to Us)

1. How do you define prayer? What does your prayer life look like? How often do you pray?
2. Have someone read James 5:13-18... James lists several things that most of us will go through. Before each thing he says we should pray. Why do you think we should pray first? What benefits will that bring if we do that first?
3. When you are going through trials or suffering is your first reaction to pray? Why do you think you react that way?
4. When you are happy do you tend to give God praise? Why do you think you react that way?
5. James 5:14 is interesting because James makes clear we be praying for those that are sick. But then he also says we should anoint them

with oil. There is certainly symbolism in that, however oil has a common ointment of the day. In other words James is saying pray and take your medicine. How often do we take our medicine but never both to pray? How often do you pray for those that are sick?

6. James ends saying we should confess our sins and pray for each other. How often do you confess your sins? Do you think that it is important to do?
7. At the beginning we read the Lord's Prayer. How does what James says about prayer line up with what Jesus prayed about?
8. Based of the way Jesus prayed and what James talked about what in your prayer life what do you need to work on? How will you do that this week?

### Response (Us to the World)

1. James told us to pray for your trials, celebrate joys, and pray for others sicknesses. Spend a moment sharing something in each of those categories. Then spend some time in prayer, have different people pray for each category.