

PRAY AT YOUR OWN RISK - WEEK 3 - Living with a Generational Lens

PURPOSE - shifting from short term prayers to legacy prayers.

ICE BREAKER QUESTION

1. If you could time travel like Back to the Future, would you rather: Go back and fix one moment or go forward and see one moment?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read Aloud - Isaiah 55:8–9 (ESV) “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

1. Where do you feel the “mismatch of perspective” between you and God most in your life right now?
2. What evidence do you find in your prayer life that you may be praying with a short timeline?

Read Aloud - Jeremiah 29:11–14 (ESV) “For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you, declares the LORD...”

Remember, this promise was spoken to people in disappointment and exile.

3. Why do you think God promised a future instead of a quick fix?
4. Hebrews 11:13 describes people who died in faith without receiving the promises. How can their examples inform your prayers?

Read Aloud - Exodus 3:6 (ESV) “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.”

5. Who came before you and prayed seeds into the ground that you are living in now?
6. What is your reaction to the statement “stop praying for relief, start praying for formation”?
7. The Holocaust story emphasized passing faith forward even in darkness. What do you want to pass forward no matter your circumstances?

PRAYER – Take 3-5 minutes to let everyone write a 100-year prayer. Read the questions below aloud to help them think:

What do you hope to build and leave to future generations?

What kind of faith do you want to pass down?

What kind of generosity do you want to be remembered for?

What story do you want your life to tell?

What kind of church do you want to leave for those who live long after us?

These prayers will be Bold, honest, impossible without God, focused on spiritual fruit, bigger than your lifetime

Break up into groups of four, share your 100-year prayer then pray for the person across from you using the 100 year prayer they shared.

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