PRAY AT YOUR OWN RISK - WEEK 2 CONNECT GROUP GUIDE

GOAL FOR WEEK 2
The goal this week is not to make people feel guilty for struggling with prayer but to name where waiting has worn them down, and to rediscover prayer as faithful presence, not instant results. This week is about staying in the circle.

OPENING
1. What stood out to you in the marinating illustration as it relates to your prayer life?
2. When you hear the word "waiting," what emotion comes up first? (Anxiety, frustration, hope, fatigue, trust)

SET UP
Last week was about bold prayer…this week is about persistent prayer.

We learned that bold prayers are not microwaved…they are marinated.

The question for today is not whether we can pray once…it is whether we will keep praying when nothing seems to change.

SECTION 1: MICROWAVED VS MARINATED PRAYERS

1. How have you seen impatience affect your prayer life?
2. Pastor Travis said "prayer is not just about getting an answer, but becoming the kind of person who can handle the answer". What does that stir in you?

SECTION 2: JESUS AND THE PERSISTENT WIDOW

Read Luke 18:1-8 aloud

1. What do you notice about the widow - her position, her power, what she actually has?
2. Jesus ends the parable by asking if He will find faith when He comes back to earth. Why do you think Jesus connects faith to persistence, not outcomes?

SECTION 3: WHEN GOD SEEMS SILENT

Read Daniel 10:12–13 aloud

1. How does knowing God heard Daniel on day one change how you view silence in prayer?
2. Have you ever quit praying for something because the waiting became exhausting?

SECTION 4: PRAYING HARD MEANS PRAYING THROUGH

1. What does "praying through" look like practically for you right now?

SECTION 5: FAITH FORMED IN WAITING

1. How does George Muller's story redefine successful prayer?
2. What kind of faith do you want God to form in you during this season?

Leave everyone with this question to marinate on - **Are you willing to keep praying even when nothing seems to change?** Pray for willingness if needed.