

I Am Cornerstone, I Am Sent  
Week's Topic: Begin with Prayer  
Discussion Guide: March 12, 2023

**CHECK UP:**

Memory work: For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." - Luke 19:10

In what way did you strive to begin relationships this past week intending to B.L.E.S.S. them?

**OPEN:**

- What are your earliest memories of praying? Did you recite a particular prayer? Did you pray in a specific place or with particular people?
- What do you think is your primary motive in prayer?

**READ and ASK: Luke 6:12-16; Matthew 6:9-13; Colossians 4:2-6**

- How did these passages tie prayer in with mission?
  - o How does the Lord's prayer teach us to align our hearts with God's?
- What do you find most challenging about prayer?
- Prayer is a conversation in which we talk to God and He talks to us. Have you ever felt a prompting from God to reach out to someone?
  - o How did you respond? What was the result?
- Does it surprise you that a new study has said that 44% of American adults say they are more open to God than they were before the pandemic?
- Ben referred to a study that said that unchurched friends value listening to people with whom they feel most comfortable. Three things were specifically mentioned:
  - o The person listens without judgment.
  - o The person allows them to come to their own conclusions.
  - o The person is confident in their own convictions.
    - How can we utilize that information?
    - Which ones are you doing well with and which ones do you need to grow in?

**APPLY:**

- What was your greatest take away from the sermon this week?
  
- How did you feel about filling out your piece of paper?
  - o Did you use your neighborhood, workplace, or something else?
  - o How well do you know the people you are in the closest proximity to reach?
  
- Each week we will ask the same question, who did you B.L.E.S.S. this week?
  
- NEXT STEP: Who are the people you can begin to pray for, asking God to give you opportunities to B.L.E.S.S. them?

*"God uses prayer to change us, then God uses us to change the world."*

- Dave Ferguson and Jon Ferguson

Memory Work:

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. -Colossians 4:23

Next Week's Reading:

Luke 18:35-42; Act 17:21-23