



Lesson Aim: To discuss ways we can develop a more proactive prayer life.



connecting

Prayer: Start your time together by asking the Holy Spirit to lead your discussion.

Icebreaker: What is your earliest memory of a meaningful prayer time/moment?

1. **READ Colossians 1:1-2.** Paul was confident about his call from God to be an Apostle. Are there any roles or responsibilities in your life that you have a sense of calling for? Share a couple of them with your group.

2. How might a sense of calling from God to these roles and responsibilities motivate you to a more proactive prayer life?

3. **READ Colossians 1:3-8.** What were some specific ways Paul was thankful to God for how He was at work in the lives of the Colossians?

4. What are some ways you've seen God at work in your life or the lives of people in your LifeGroup over the last year?

5. **READ Colossians 1:9-14.** What are some areas of life where you find it difficult to discern what God's will is? Why might that be?

6. What are some areas of life where you find it easier to know what God's will is, but more difficult to carry it out? Why might that be?

7. In his message Sunday, Josh made the statement: "Place character development at the top of your prayer list." Why can this be such a difficult thing to do? What types of things are usually at the top of your prayer list?

8. Look over the list of character traits Paul prays for in regards to the development of the Colossians. What are some ways you have experienced God's blessings as He has worked some of this out in your life?

9. **Close in prayer** by using Paul's prayer in verses 9-14 as a guide. You may choose to do this as an entire group, or break down into smaller groups of 2-3.



growing



sewing



reaching

PRAY

What are some ways we can develop proactive prayer in our lives?

- Start with this mindset: *it's not about what I make of myself, it's about what God makes of me.* (verses 1 - 2)
- Constantly and specifically express gratitude over God's power to change lives. (verses 3 - 8)
- Ask for the discernment to know God's will AND the ability to live it out. (verses 9 - 10a)
- Place character development at the top of your prayer list. (verses 10b-14)
 - ✓ An endurance that no situation can defeat.
 - ✓ A patience that no person can defeat.
 - ✓ A joyful thankfulness that is based on who we are in Christ.