

“Ministering Through Prayer” Matthew 6:9-13 | Book chapter 16

Before the Video: Each person take a moment to share with the group the insights and experiences you have had over the last several days as you sought to join Jesus on his mission in your everyday life. What did Jesus seem to be showing you? How did you respond? You can use the 5 Questions to help you get started.

- How did you see God at work this week?
- What has Jesus been teaching you in his Word?
- What kind of conversations are you having, especially with those who are not yet Christians?
- What good can we do around here?
- How can we help you in prayer?

Last week we took up the challenge of intentionally planting a seed of good. How did that go?

Processing Our Insights:

1) The Finke’s again introduced the 5 Mission Practices. See if your group can list them below.

- _____ the Kingdom
- _____ from Jesus
- _____ with people
- _____ good
- _____ through prayer

2) Today’s session focuses on the final Mission Practice of Ministering through Prayer... and honestly, doesn’t that sound like the most terrifying Mission Practice of all? How does Susan reassure us in the video? (And how does that help you?)

3) What could be a situation where you would offer to pray with a person?

- What words of advice did the Finke’s give about *how* to pray with someone?

4) We have a safe environment to practice Ministering through Prayer right here in our missional community. How has praying out loud with each other on a regular basis grown you?

- How has practicing prayer in our missional community prepared you to minister through prayer in your “neighborhoods?”

5) Occasionally praying *with* our neighbors is missionally powerful. But we can also pray *for* our neighbors during our personal or family devotion time. Take a few minutes to fill in a Neighborhood Prayer Map for one of your neighborhoods. A copy is located in the back of the book “Joining Jesus on His Mission.” If you don’t have a copy of the book, you can create your own prayer map by simply using a sheet of paper.

- Why is praying regularly for our neighbors during our devotion time missionally powerful, too?

6) In the coming week, let’s take a small but intentional step toward joining Jesus on his mission. Here is your challenge: Begin to use your Neighborhood Prayer Map to pray regularly for your neighbors.

7) What was helpful about the encouragement the Finke’s offered regarding having *time* for a missional life?

Before We Go

Note: You may want to break into groups of three.

“A-Ha!” Insights to Action: What was the most significant insight you had as a result of today’s video and discussion? Take **3 minutes** to write down your insight and what you think Jesus might be giving you to believe and/or do as a result. This is your self-identified assignment for joining Jesus in the coming days. In addition, will you take up the challenge of Question 6?

Have each person take **60 seconds** to share their self-identified assignment with the group.

In the coming days *watch for opportunities Jesus will give you* to put your self-identified assignments into play. The next time your group meets be ready to tell the stories of what happened (whether little or large).

- Also, give the group a brief update on how your planning and inviting is going for hanging out with a neighbor(s).

Ministering through Prayer: As we prepare to head out on our mission adventure with Jesus, have each person ask the next person, **“How can I help you in prayer?”** After everyone has had a turn to answer, each person then prays for their neighbor. Write the prayer request in the space below so you won’t forget.

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