

KINGDOM PRAYER

WEEK 5 (December 6 - 12)



New Hope | Small Groups



SERMON SERIES: NOV-DEC 2020



SMALL GROUP GUIDELINES:

SAFE GROUP: everyone can be real, open, and honest with their struggles and victories.

CONFIDENTIALITY: What is said in the group stays in the group.

LISTEN: really listening to what is being shared. Try to avoid thinking about how you are going to respond, or what you are going to say next.

PAUSE: Give the person sharing the chance to finish and the group the opportunity to consider what was just shared before responding.

NO "CROSS TALK": Be considerate of others as they are sharing. No side conversations.

NO FIXING: We are not here to fix each other. Jesus does that part. Give encouragement; speak truth, and point to Jesus.

NO RESCUING: When people are sharing something deeply personal resist the temptation to rescue them by giving advice. This will often cause them to stop sharing.

SHARING: Be sensitive about the amount of time you share.

BE SELF-AWARE: Be self-aware of how you are personally affecting the environment through your words, actions, and non-verbal communication.

USE "I" STATEMENTS: It's easy to talk about the issues of others, but for our purposes, we want you to put yourself on the table. Try to use "I" statements rather than "them", "the church", "us", "we", etc.

CONFLICT: When conflict or sin issues arise, we want to make sure that we are honoring God and each other in the way we deal with these issues.

Small Group Evening Schedule:

10min - Hangout time

5min - Read Small Group Guidelines - review

40min - **Storying through scripture:**

GROUP INTERACTION: Were you ever bullied on the playground as a kid? Do you remember who did it and what happened? If you're comfortable, share the story with the group. What did you feel towards the bully? Does it still make you angry today?

This week, Pastor Tim talked about forgiveness. Today, we are going to look deeper at John 6:12 which asks God to forgive us as we forgive others. Have everyone **read Matthew 6:9-13** out loud together, then read the passages below and answer the questions. We are going to story through a parable that Jesus taught. Take time and read Matthew 18:21-35 together. Perhaps break up the passage and have 2 or 3 people read it out loud.

READ: Matthew 18:21-35

Who are the characters in this story? List them all.

What were each of them experiencing in this story? Emotions, responses, relationships, etc...

What does this story say about God's character?

What is Jesus teaching you about forgiveness from this passage?

The promises of forgiveness:

When we choose to forgive someone, we are making three promises:

1. I will not use this against you in the future
2. I will not talk to others about this (I will not gossip)
3. I will not dwell on this in my thoughts or feelings

NEXT STEPS:

This week, take 30min with your heavenly father and make a list of sins that He has forgiven you for. Write big and small ones. Then, take time to thank Him for His forgiveness. Next, write down some names or situations where you need to forgive others and start the process of forgiving them. If you need more help, download a free pdf at www.mynewhope.tv/forgiveness

10min - Share prayer requests & pray.

(one person write requests and email/text to the rest of the group)