

Fasting Resets:

- Fasting resets: What I believe is <u>essential</u> in my life.
- Fasting resets: The <u>appetites</u> that dominates my life. GOD's there, listening for all who pray, for all who pray and mean it. Psalm 145:18 (MSG)

Praver resets:

- Where I turn for <u>strength</u> and <u>help</u>.
 God is my helper! The Lord is the provider for my life. Psalm 54:4 (GWT)
- o Prayer connects me to God's power.
- Where I get <u>direction</u> for life. I look to the Lord for help at all times, and he rescues me from danger. Psalm 25:15 (GWT)
- o Prayer connects me to God's <u>plan</u> for my life.
- Who I <u>surrender</u> to in life. Father, if you are willing, please take this cup of suffering away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine. Luke 22:42 (NLT)
- o Prayer connects me to God's <u>purpose</u> for my life.

Prayer is simply: Our <u>conversation</u> with God.

Logistics:

- How to pray: Be <u>real</u>, and talk <u>honestly</u> to God.
- Where to pray: Privately don't make a <u>show</u> of it. Matthew 6:5-6 (NLT)
- How often: Always.

Never stop praying. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 (NLT)

Real prayer is driven by <u>relationship</u> not need or crisis.

The not so popular Purposes of Prayer:

- Drawing close to God.
- Gaining confidence in God.
- Living connected with God.

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life. Psalm 139:23-24 (NLT)

Relational Prayer:

- Search my <u>heart</u>.
- Show me what I fear.
- What I fear the most reveals where I trust God the least.
- O Uncover my <u>sin</u>.
- What are my Christian friends trying to tell me?
- What have I tried to rationalize/ excuse for some time?
- Where am I most defensive?
- Lead Me.
- Allow God to <u>define</u> my life.
- Express our need for His guidance.
- Depend on Him for the <u>life</u> He's called us to.

Have Questions? Text them to: (559)464-5754

Here are some questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- First of all, how are you doing with your fast? What are some challenges? What are some break throughs you are experiencing?
- What spoke most to you from the talk? What spoke most to you from the video?
- If prayer is a conversation with God, how is your conversation going?
- Discuss how "prayer resets" our lives.
- What is the conversation with God that draws us close to Him?
- How does prayer allow us to gain confidence in God?
- Read Psalms 139:23-24. Do you find that to be a difficult conversation with God?
- Which of the points under "Relational Prayer" do you find most difficult to express to God? Explain.
- How would you like your conversations with God to change in the future?

Connection Group Leaders: Remind your group of the following announcements:

Leadership Training - 1/22 Snow Day - 1/28