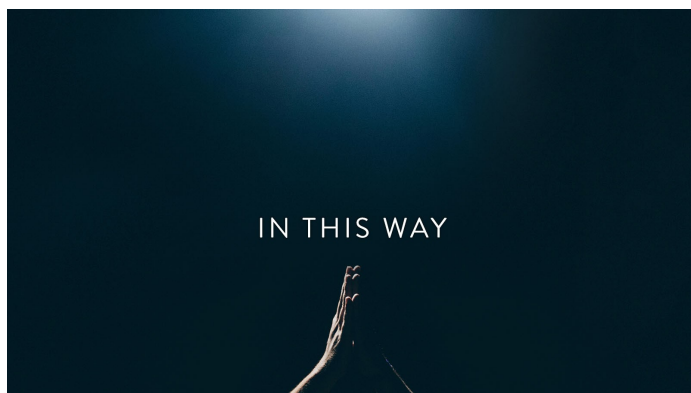


SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE



PRINCE
OF PEACE
Called to Connect



In This Way ... Ask

March 2 & 3, 2024

Many of us feel inadequate in our prayer life; we worry that we will get prayer “wrong.” Throughout this seven-week series, you will be guided through many types of prayer. To pray “In This Way” gives us many paths of entering a holy conversation with God by following the example of Jesus.

SCRIPTURE TEXT: MATTHEW 7:7-11, JOHN 11:6-7, JOHN 11:41, JOHN 17

Read the scripture text together as a group.

BACKGROUND INFO

Jesus hears the news of his good friend Lazarus' illness and, instead of rushing to heal him, Jesus spends two days in prayer - pleading earnestly for God to move in and through him for God's purpose ... whatever that purpose may be. That purpose ends up revealing the glory of God, through Jesus, in a resurrected Lazarus. In this way, may our prayers ask that God's glory be revealed in our lives and in our world.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Share about a time in your life when you felt stuck: in the mud, in the snow, in a job, in a relationship, in a sea of decisions, etc. How did you get unstuck?
- Reread Matthew 7:7-11. Have you ever felt stuck in prayer because you've asked, sought, and knocked without receiving, finding, or having the door opened? Share about that experience. What were you praying for? Were you asking for your will to be done? Were you seeking ways to get your own way? How did you get unstuck?
- Reread John 11:6-7 and John 11:41. ***Jesus spends two days in prayer ... supplication ... pleading earnestly and humbly asking for God to move in and through him for God's purpose: To reveal the glory of God, through Jesus, in a resurrected Lazarus.*** Think back to the last question. How would following Jesus' example have changed your experience? What situation are you facing right now that you could bring to God in prayer - asking first and foremost that God's glory would be revealed in your life and in our world. What would answered prayer look like in that situation?

CHALLENGE: Seek the revelation of God's glory in your prayers this week. God's glory looks like the drying of tears, through you. God's glory looks like new beginnings, through you. God's glory looks like healing brought to broken places, through you. God's glory looks like jumping in the mud to help push other people out of their stuck places.