

CONNECTION

- Do you have a 'favorite place'? (i.e. a restaurant that you love, a place where you always go on holidays, a hike that you love, etc?) What is it and why do you love it so much?

SCRIPTURE:

- Matthew 6:5 - 13

CONVERSATIONS:

- Your experience with prayer
 - Who in your life modeled prayer for you? What did it look like and how did it impact you?
 - Was there a time that praying was intimidating for you?
 - What are some of the primary obstacles that you or others face when it comes to prayer?
 - Sometimes the topic of prayer can cause us to feel either guilty or defeated. How should we think about our 'shortcomings' when it comes to prayer?
- Read Matthew 6:5 - 8.
 - What is the difference between praying out loud in a group and praying out loud like a hypocrite? What is it about praying out loud in a group that you find intimidating? Why?
 - Have you ever experienced insincere prayer? How did it make you feel or affect you? What do you think the costs or effects of insincere prayer might be?
 - When and where do you find it easiest to pray? When or where is it hardest?
- Read Matthew 6:9 - 13
 - What are the big themes that Jesus is teaching us to focus on as we pray?
 - Which of those do you find most natural for you as you pray? Why?
 - Which do you find least likely to pray about? Why?
 - What does being "boldly reverent" mean in how we pray? How does it affect our heart posture, intentions and how we view God as being sovereign?
- Read Revelation 8:3-4
 - How does this encourage us that our prayers are heard and part of what God is doing in the world?

RIDGE CHURCH REMINDERS:

- Seniors Social May 26th
- End of Community Semester 3 May 31st

PRAYER:

- PRAY for us to see new faces on Sunday morning and do our best to welcome them here.
- PRAY for those folks serving at the HUB. That through the grace that our volunteers share a door would be open to share the Gospel with them.
- PRAY for our youth who were at a retreat this past weekend. That those who have made a decision for Christ would continue to be strengthened & grow in their faith.
- PRAY for our pastors, staff and Board. As the church grows, we have an enemy who tries to tear it down in whatever way he can.
- PRAY that we would all have a greater appreciation of the riches we have in Christ.
- PRAY that Petals:Refresh would be considered a welcoming, safe place for those women in our city who are dealing with hardship.