



Sermon Discussion Guide

Hearing God's Voice

Week 4: Prayer Blockers

Romans 8:38-39 | August 23, 2020

Big Idea

Removing the “blocks” you create between you and God will allow you to hear His voice more clearly.

Opening Questions

Have you ever been in a situation where you felt too afraid or prideful to ask for something? How did that turn out?

General Sermon Questions

How comfortable are you with praying? Are there certain environments or circumstances that make prayer easier for you?

Key Scripture Questions

1. Read **Matthew 17:14-21**. Lack of faith is one thing that blocks prayer. How does our faith affect our prayers? How can we grow in our faith?
2. Read **Luke 11:5-13**. Having a powerful prayer life starts with actually praying! What keeps you from praying? What are some ways you could be intentional about praying more often?
3. Read **James 4:1-3**. Praying with selfish desires and motives can prevent us from receiving God's blessings. Try to identify a time you prayed with the wrong motives; What were the results? What does prayer look like when it's done with the proper motives?
4. Read **Proverbs 28:13**. Unconfessed sin is another block to a powerful prayer life. What are the consequences of not confessing your sins? How do you feel when you talk to God about your sin?
5. Read **Mark 11:25**. Failing to forgive others negatively impacts our prayers. What does forgiveness look like? What keeps you from forgiving others? Without naming names, consider sharing a time you forgave someone and what happened as a result.
6. Other prayer blocks were addressed in the sermon besides those mentioned above. Which one do you struggle with the most? What can you do about it?
7. Read **Romans 8:38-39**. This week's sermon landed on this message of God's love. How do these verses encourage you as you reflect on the prayer blocks in your life? How can this powerful truth help remove those blocks?

Application Questions

1. What do you think the Holy Spirit may be saying to you through this sermon and our discussion?
2. What is something God wants you to do now?
3. Beyond prayer for each other, is there a way we can help each other apply what God is showing us?

Prayer Time

“Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for loving us even when we create blocks in our relationship with You. Help us address anything that prevents us from hearing Your voice so that we can live a powerful prayer life. Amen.”