

DISCIPLE GROUPS PRAYER GUIDE

Disciple groups are community-based, gospel-centered gatherings where people can grow in their discipleship journey.

(Matthew 26:41; Philippians 4:6–7; Acts 2:42)

What is prayer? Prayer is a conversation between people and God. The power of our prayers does not rest on your ability to pray eloquent, highly articulate prayers. It rests in the power of Jesus as our Great High Priest.

When is the best time to pray in our group? There is never a wrong time to pray, especially while in a disciple group; a community of other believers. Romans 12:12 says, “Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.” With that said, here are a couple of the most natural places to pray during your disciple group.

- **To begin your group time**

- Thank God for the gospel through the sacrifice of His son, Jesus, and for the presence of the Holy Spirit.
- Ask God to create an environment for vulnerability and transparency.

- **To conclude your group – as a response to the time the group spent in His Word**

- Thank God for His Word and what He revealed to the group during their gathering time.
- Ask God to help the group believe the promises found in His Word and to live them out this coming week.

- **Whenever someone in your group needs intercession (praying on the behalf of others)**

- When they confess a sin with which they are struggling.
- When they share about an emotionally difficult conversation they’ve had or need to have.
- When they receive difficult news, diagnosis, information, etc.
- When they directly ask for group prayer.

**Many of the above examples work well with a single person (not just leader) leading the group through prayer. Below are examples of ways to pray in your disciple group.*

GROUP PRAYER TIPS

Group Prayer Options

- **Celebrate Wins:** What is God doing in your group as He answers your prayers?
- **Partner Up:** Everyone gets to participate and deepen their relationship with God and each other.
 - When possible, pair with the same gender.
 - Stay focused, have the leader give a specific topic to pray about.
- **Intercessory:** Group prays together on another's behalf. If you want to put hands on their shoulders during prayer, ask them if they are comfortable with that beforehand.

Encouragement to Group Leader

- Be mindful of other's comfort levels around physical boundaries.
- Feel empowered to follow the Holy Spirit's lead and stop the disciple group at any time and pray.
- Don't be discouraged if some people are not ready to pray out loud yet. Continue to ask them, encourage them and lead by example.
- Remember that praying out loud is not about bringing the focus onto yourself.
- Listen to the group and the Holy Spirit. Be slow to speak.

Encouragement to Group Members

- God is not a God of confusion. Be clear and to the point.
- Remember, there are no "magic" words when praying. Be real and honest.
- When possible, pray in pairs. If needed, then split to pray with people 1:1 to ensure everyone is prayed for in a timely manner.
- Be real, honest and vulnerable as you pray.

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Additional Resources on RightNow Media

Group Prayer Time Done Right - rightnowmedia.org/Training/Post/View/22286

Be A Praying Group - rightnowmedia.org/Training/Post/View/10154