



GROUP GUIDE

WEEK OF OCTOBER 25 & 26, 2025 | PRAYERS THROUGHOUT SCRIPTURE

As a church, we believe God is calling us to become a house of prayer, and that starts with each one of us. Join us as we read powerful prayers throughout the month of October from the Bible and engage in meaningful prayer experiences each week.

DISCUSS

We are diving into the Gospel of Matthew, where we just finished the Last Supper. This is the last meal that Jesus has with His disciples before He's betrayed, handed over to be put on trial, and later crucified. As they finish dinner, Jesus takes His disciples to the Mount of Olives and then goes on further into the Garden of Gethsemane with just his inner three, Peter, James and John.

Read Matthew 26:37-45

- Verse 39 says that Jesus bowed with His face to the ground. What does that tell us about Jesus' heart posture going into His time of prayer?
- Jesus vulnerably admits He is in agony over what's to come (Verse 38). So why does He start His prayer with "If it is possible..."? Why is that so important?
- "Yet I want your will to be done, not mine" (Matthew 26:39). Where in your life do you need to surrender your plans and agenda to God? What does the outcome of Jesus' prayer teach us about trusting God's control, even when He answers differently than we hope?
- Looking at how often Jesus kept returning to the Lord in prayer, what does that tell us about the importance of persistence? How often do you return to God in prayer over something in your life?
- Jesus tells His disciples, "Keep watch and pray, so that you will not give in to temptation. For the spirit is willing, but the body is weak." Why does knowing our bodies are weak (our flesh is weak) help us to rely on God?

PRAYER EXPERIENCE: Confession and Repentance

Leader Prompt: *"There is so much impact in confessing to one another. James 5:16 says, 'Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.' As we see in this story, Jesus shares His feelings in vulnerability; He fully embraces His humanness while surrendering to God's will. I am going to put on some instrumental worship music, and we're going to take a couple of minutes to pray individually for God to reveal to us what aspects of life are not surrendered to Him. Then, we will break out into pairs, confess to one another, and then pray over each other."*

Leader, put on instrumental worship music and give them a couple minutes to pray and then ask them to break out into partner(s). Take the rest of group time to pray over these things.