

PRACTICE ONE

YOU WERE CREATED FOR FRIENDSHIP WITH GOD

BEFORE YOU LEAD

For the best experience in leading your group through discussion, it is important for you to preview the first session's video so you can familiarize yourself with the content, session outline and discussion questions. It is also worth taking a few minutes to consider how to make this work within your group's timeframe .

INTRODUCTION

Welcome everyone. Pray to begin.

Say: Over the course of this Spring we are going to be working through a six week video series led by Dallas Willard titled, Hearing God. The main overall objective of the series is for each of us to grow in our understanding of what it means to relate to God as we make space to be with him. The title of the six sessions are:

(1) You were created for friendship with God; (2) What hearing from God is not; (3) Trinitarian Friendship; (4) The Still Small Voice; (5) Hearing God in the Context of the Kingdom of God; (6) Hearing God as Life

Ask: How do you feel about taking time to focus on the topic of hearing God and bonding with him?

Transition: Before the video, encourage everyone to get their pencil/pen and notebook/journal out.

VIDEO (25 MINUTES)

DISCUSSION

Dallas Willard said, "God has made you for his presence and seeks fellowship with you".

1. What do you think he meant by this?
2. Do you think this quote is realistic or idealistic?
3. Assuming this is true, what does this mean for your own personal life?

Read Psalm 32:6-11

1. In this conversational dialogue between David and God, what do you think is going on in verse 8?
2. From these passages, what does it seem God truly desires from his people?

THE PRACTICE PROMPT

Each practice week, we will be providing a practice prompt for everyone to do on their own throughout the week. We want to invite and encourage each of us to make space to read, reflect, and use each passage as a journaling/written prayer prompt before our next practice week. You could choose to go through these passages individually or in one sitting a couple times.

1. Mark 1:21-39: Jesus' use of solitude in the midst of a flurry of activity
2. Exodus 24:14-15: The glory of meditation
3. Genesis 3:8: God walking with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden
4. Deuteronomy 6:1-9: The importance of intentionality
5. Matthew 6:9-13: The Lord's Prayer

CLOSE IN PRAYER

This is a great time to pray for one another and for what's going on in each person's life. Be sure to also pray that each person would be willing to personally experience God's invitation to fellowship, friendship and bonding.