

WEEK Jan 9 - 15

MAIN IDEA

God designed us for relationship with him through prayer and invites us to pray boldly!

CHECK IN (HIGHS & LOWS) 15 min

A great, quick way to catch the highlights of what is happening in the lives of the people in your group is to take turns quickly sharing the "highs & lows" of your week/holidays. High: What was your biggest highlight since we last met? Low: What was the low point during this time?

SETTLE IN (ICE BREAKER)

1. What role does prayer play in your faith journey?

DIG IN (UNDERSTANDING)

15 min

Normally, we spend significant time digging into scripture and considering how God is changing the way we think and transforming the way we live. Since this week is focused on "Reality Changing Prayers," we'll spend some time in scripture as a launching point, but let's spend a significant amount of time in prayer.

- 2. Read Nehemiah 1. What information caused Nehemiah to weep and mourn?
- 3. How did Nehemiah respond in prayer? What stands out to you about the contents of his prayer?

- 4. Spoiler alert: It was this prayer that sparked the migration back to Israel for the Jewish people. One bold prayer preceded one great act of faith, and God responded! And it all started with a felt burden for the people of God. What burden are you carrying for the people of God or those unreached by the gospel?
- 5. Sometimes we hold back from praying HUGE requests. If you knew God would say "yes" no matter what, what would you pray for?

Lift-Up (Prayer)

30+ min

Here's a prayer guide to spend some devoted time in prayer. You can pray together as a group or break out for individual prayer. Whatever it is, many great movements of God start in the same way it started for Nehemiah: A felt burden, a huge prayer, and a bold act of faith. Include these things in your prayer:

- · Lift up your felt burdens to God.
- · Lift up huge ways you want to see God move.
- · How do you need strength to live for God this year?
- Read Ephesians 2:10.
- Ask for insight on how God has designed and gifted you.
- · Ask for opportunities for kingdom work to be presented.
- Read Ephesians 3:16-21.
- For Summit to be a place of freedom and healing.
- For God to bring supernatural unity to the people of Summit.
- For God to equip disciple-makers at our church.
- For our love of God to increase in unprecedented measures.
- · For our love for our community to explode forward.
- · For Summit to make an impact in people's lives in life-changing ways.
- For God to position our group to make a specific impact in people's lives.

STEP UP (HOMEWORK)

6. Devote yourself to prayer every day this week. Use Summit's prayer guide as a starting point as you connect with our Heavenly Father. The prayer guide can be found in the app or summitny.org.