



## Growth Group Homework – February 11, 2018

### Out Prayer

#### Warm-Up

1. Where is your favorite place to spend time? Why do you enjoy it?
2. What is your favorite part about where we live?

#### Talk it Over

3. What was most meaningful to you in this week's message? Why?
  4. Have you experienced a time when God answered a specific prayer? What about a time when it seemed like God said no or answered differently than expected?
  5. Read Luke 18:1-8. What do you think of Jesus' teaching in this passage? Why do you think the widow was persistent?
- What usually gets in the way of you going to God in prayer?

6. Bevan said God has put us here to pray for and love the people of this community. How does this affect your perspective on where you live?
7. In Daniel 9, he prays to God on behalf of the city. Read through the passage below and identify some of the major elements of the prayer.

**Daniel 9:4-19** O Master, great and august God. You never waver in your covenant commitment, never give up on those who love you and do what you say. Yet we have sinned in every way imaginable. We've done evil things, rebelled, dodged and taken detours around your clearly marked paths. We've turned a deaf ear to your servants the prophets, who preached your Word to our kings and leaders, our parents, and all the people in the land...

Compassion is our only hope, the compassion of you, the Master, our God, since in our rebellion we've forfeited our rights. We paid no attention to you when you told us how to live, the clear teaching that came through your servants the prophets. All of us in Israel ignored what you said. We defied your instructions and did what we pleased. We kept at our sinning, never giving you a second thought, oblivious to your clear warning, and so you had no choice but to let the disaster loose on us in full force. You, our GOD, had a perfect right to do this since we persistently and defiantly ignored you.

So listen, God, to this determined prayer of your servant. Have mercy on your ruined Sanctuary. Act out of who you are, not out of what we are. This prayer is our last and only hope: "Master, listen to us! Master, forgive us! Master, look at us and do something! Master, don't put us off!" **(excerpt from the Message)**

- How does Daniel's prayer challenge how you pray for where you live?

#### Take it Home

8. Read Ezekiel 22:30. God wants to extend mercy and blessing, but someone needs to step up and pray for it. Who can you "stand in the gap" for? What specific steps can you take to begin praying for them?