

Prayer (2 of 3)
Small Group Discussion Questions

Join our congregation for worship in-person or online at 10:30 am each Sunday via our [Grantham Church YouTube Channel](#). If you ever miss a message, the sermons are always posted to the [recent sermons page](#) at our website and at the [Grantham Church Podcast](#) the following day, along with the small group discussion questions under Worship Resources. Thank you for staying connected with us!

Sunday, August 29th 2021



Sermon Series Focus: Throughout the Scriptures and church history, every spiritual awakening and renewal was founded on intense, corporate, Kingdom-centered prayer. Therefore, we must see prayer as being about more than going to God for our own spiritual and physical needs, or for the purpose of personal growth. In addition to those things, we must see prayer as our cry for more of the Kingdom! What does the Bible say about this? And what might it look like if we begin to pray this way at Grantham?

Sermon Title: Our Spiritual Fight

Scripture Reading: Daniel 10:1-14; Acts 12:1-17; 2 Corinthians 10:3-4; Ephesians 6:12

Sermon Focus: The Scriptures tell us that reality is comprised of both physical and spiritual realms. And the biblical narrative reveals that there is a struggle between good and evil on both sides of the cosmic curtain. So, how do we engage in this struggle, fight against evil, and participate in bringing more of the Kingdom? We pray. Listen as Pastor David challenges us to embrace a warfare worldview and pray like it matters.

Thank you for going deeper in conversation with your small group in person, by phone, or video call. Use the following questions to help *guide* your small group discussion:

1. Read Acts 12:1-17 together. What do you find interesting about this story? What do you find challenging? Also, what lessons can we gather from this passage?
2. Can you share of a time when (like the church praying in Acts 12) you prayed corporately with other Christians and God answered your prayers?
3. Read Daniel 10:1-14 together. The “princes” in this story are not people, but angelic beings (demons). We see in this story that there is an unseen struggle that occurred in response to Daniel’s prayers. How often do you think about prayer in this way? Does it help you to know that this sort of thing occurs?
4. Pastor David shared a story about how a demonic apparition appeared at the end of his bed in the middle of the night after a regular time of worship and prayer. He believed that this happened in response to him praying fervently for people who were under demonic strongholds. Does this story challenge you and your worldview? Have you ever experienced anything like it before?
5. Pastor David said there we can hold to views that help or hurt our prayer life. For example, the following go to the heart of the way we see God and nature:
 - **Nature of time & the universe**
(e.g., determinism or free will / “blueprint” theology or warfare worldview—a real battle of wills!)
 - **God’s sovereignty, character & image**
(e.g., Zeus / Cosmic Santa Claus or “Abba” Father / the God who looks like Jesus—the “image of the invisible God”)
 - **God’s foreknowledge & partnership with us**
(e.g., all is settled & final, or future is to some degree open—possibilities are real, we actualize reality/future)

Are there some views that you feel hinder your prayer life?

6. Take some time as a group to list what you perceive to be demonic strongholds over people’s lives, in our families, in our church, in our country, and the world? And then use the remaining time to pray against this evil in Jesus’ name.