Postures of the Heart (2 of 3)

Small Group Discussion Questions

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





Series Focus: The Bible reveals that there are postures of the heart that are naturally conducive to a healthy prayer life. We can see these emotional postures in various biblical characters. We can also see that these emotional postures are often accompanied by physical postures which help us embody how we're feeling and experiencing God. Join us for our January sermon series—*Postures of the Heart: How Disciples Approach God in Prayer*—as we explore what it looks like to engage with a holy and loving God through spiritual conversation and seek to make practical application to our walk with Jesus.

Sermon Title: The Posture of Boldness: Praying with Confidence

Scripture Reading: Hebrews 4:14-16; Luke 11:1-13

Sermon Focus: As followers of Jesus we have the privilege to approach God with confidence. Understanding His power and embracing our identity as His beloved children empowers us to pray boldly. In the second message of our series, Renée Blanchard reminds us—along with the writer of Hebrews—that instead of allowing fear and doubt to keep us from a close relationship with God, we are invited to draw near to God with assurance that is rooted in His love and faithfulness.

Thank you for going deeper in conversation with your small group. Use the following questions to help *guide* your small group discussion:

1. What's the problem with putting our confidence primarily in ourselves as we face life's hardships?

- 2. Read Hebrews 4:14-16. How is it comforting that we have a "great high priest" in Jesus Christ? What is different about Jesus compared to previous high priests in the Old Testament?
- 3. Through Jesus we have access to the Father and can come to God as his child. How can/does this affect your attitude in prayer? Do you have family experience/history that might affect the way you interact with God as a powerful, yet loving Father?
- 4. Read Luke 11:1-13. What do these verses teach us about prayer? What is significant about God giving us his Holy Spirit (v. 13)? Does this affect what you might ask God for when you pray?
- 5. What are your fears when you approach God in prayer? What truths about God do these Scriptures declare that may help relieve those fears?
- 6. In what areas of your life do you feel challenged to pray more boldly? What is a specific prayer you could begin to pray more confidently and persistently?
- 7. Pray together, helping each other to hear and believe the truth of God's love, grace, and mercy.