

# Prayer

May 28, 2017

## Read

*Getting Familiar with God's Word*

- Slowly read Matthew 28:16-20 two times

## Reflect

*Taking God's Word into our Hearts*

- Which part of this passage stands out to you as you read it and why?

## Pray

*Responding to God's Word in Prayer*

- Take several minutes and speak to the Lord about what in this passage stood out most to you and why.

## Rest

*Finding Wholeness in God's Word*

- Take the last few minutes of your time in prayer to let your heart and mind rest on the reminder of "I am with you always..."

# Small Groups

## Checking In

*Welcoming and Warming Up (For Small Groups)*

- Practicing Hospitality: *How did you first hear the gospel and who has been responsible for discipling you?*
- Group Rules: *A Training in Love (1 Timothy 1:5)*
  - a. Do's and Don'ts of Listening
  - b. Confidentiality

## Prayerfulness

*Continuously Remaining in God's Love*

- Read Matthew 28:16-20
- In what ways did God speak to you through his Word and Spirit in this week's worship service?

## Wisdom

*Cherishing and Discerning the Truth in Love*

- Read 1 Corinthians 2:1-5. Jesus' command to "go" means he has trusted us with the high responsibility of proclaiming the gospel. This message is often thought of as "foolish" (1 Cor. 1:18), and because of this it is met with resistance and opposition. This opposition can produce fear in us; how do you experience this fear, and do you connect with Paul's own struggle of "weakness, fear, and much trembling"?
- Read Matthew 28:18-20. Jesus' first statement is about his authority and throughout the gospels we get the sense that his authority doesn't necessarily work the same way that the world's authority works (see Matthew 20:25-28). It is also an authority that he deputizes his disciples with (Matthew 18:18-20). In other words Jesus authorizes his disciples to "forgive sins" through the proclamation of the gospel (2 Corinthians 5:19-20). What then does it look like for us to "go... make disciples... baptize... [and] teach" in light of this authority given to us?

## Compassion

*Moving Toward the Poor, Marginalized, and Broken in Love*

- Take some time in your group to pray for the gospel to reach "all nations," especially those unreached people groups?

## Reconciliation

*Repentance and Forgiveness for the Sake of Love*

- What would it look like for you to engage in disciple-making?

## Checking Out

*Blessing and Sending Out (For Small Groups)*

- What stood out to you about our group time tonight (1-2 sentences each)?
- Close in prayer and read 2 Corinthians 5:19-20