

## **Suggested Guidance for Prayer**

One way to begin praying for our group is to seek God's leading in your own life. Here are a few suggestions for prayer, but trust God's leading.

The Lord's Prayer ([Matthew 6:9-13](#)) is a great place to start praying for our group. To pray this prayer most effectively, we need to ask ourselves a few questions:

- If his kingdom were truly to come in and through us, what difference would that make in our group members' lives, in the group as a whole?
- What would God's will be for our group, group leaders, and members?
- What would it look like for God's name to be honored in our group?
- What sorts of temptation and evil might impact our group? It is important to pray specifically for protection against these, as the enemy loves to destroy what is good. ([1 Peter 5:8](#))

### ***Praying for our Leaders:***

We might not know and understand what our leaders or group members need, but there is One who has the very hairs of their heads numbered, and He knows what they need today, and what they will face in the near future. The most effective support we can give our leaders and members is to pray for them.

All of the things you've prayed for yourself (see above) can also be prayed for your leaders. Here are a few additional suggestions:

- Ask God to empower your leaders to honor him with their lives. Pray for a deep, abiding connectedness with Jesus, the Vine ([John 15:1-8](#))
- Ask God for protection from temptation and for delivery from all kinds of evil.
  - [Colossians 1:9-14](#): knowing God's will, spiritual wisdom and fruit, growth in knowledge of God, endurance, patience, joy, gratitude. )
- Ask God to grant your leaders wisdom as they make the daily decisions and to lead the group effectively.
  - [Ephesians 1:17-19](#): spiritual wisdom and revelation, knowledge of God and of their hope as believers.
- Ask for God's will to be done in bringing spiritual growth in your leaders.
  - [Ephesians 3:14-21](#): spiritual power and faith, knowledge of Christ's love, being filled with God's fullness
- Ask God to grant your leaders humility and a servant's nurturing and grace-filled heart. ([Philippians 2:3-4](#))

### ***Praying for our Members:***

- Pray that God will reveal group members' spiritual gifts and create opportunities for those gifts to be used to honor him and serve the group.
- Pray for appropriate levels of intimacy, accountability, and confidentiality.
- Ask God to lead new members into our group as he desires, and pray for a spirit of acceptance and welcoming.
- Pray for protection and perfect peace for our member's households.

- A major success factor in any group is meaningful relationships. Here are a few ways to pray for relationships in our group:
  - Ask God to create an environment of encouragement ([1 Thessalonians 5:11](#)).
  - Pray for a spirit of grace and forgiveness among members ([James 1:19](#) and [Matthew 6:12, 14-15](#)).
  - Pray for humility ([Philippians 2:1-5](#)).
  - Pray for joy and spirits to pursue truth and goodness ([Psalm 32:11](#)).
  - Ask God to protect the group from grumbling and complaining spirits ([Philippians 2:14-15](#)).