BLESS – Begin With Prayer

Memory Verse:

"First of all, then, I urge that requests, prayers, intercession, and thanksgiving be made on behalf of all people." 1 Timothy 2:1 (NASB)

God's intention is for His people to be a _____ to all people of the earth.

Before we talk to people about God, we need to talk to _____ about _____.

Prayer: the action of communicating with God.

In prayer, we ______ with God to change the future.

"Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, through His flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith."

Hebrews 10:19-21a (NASB)

Jesus began His ministry with prayer.

Get Started:

- By looking around in your physical neighborhood, who your neighbors are, at your workplace, or at school. Who has God put near you?
- With short, simple prayers.

Who is my neighbor?

The person who encountered someone in need and had compassion on them. (Luke 10:30)

Prayer will make a _____, ____, and touch the hearts and lives of your neighbors.

Prayer will change you and cause you to draw closer in your relationship with Him.

____ as you listen, eat, serve, and share.

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing."

1 Thessalonians 5:16-17

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Discussion Questions:

- How well do you know the people who live around you? What are some things that make it easier or harder to get to know your neighbors?
- What does it look like to be a good neighbor? Share a story about a good (or bad) experience with a neighbor.
- Do you believe your prayers can influence God and change events? Describe an example from your life or from the Bible where prayer changed the situation. (Examples: 2 Kings 20:1-6, 1 Samuel 1:1-20, Acts 12:1-17, Joshua 10:11-14, 1 Chronicles 4:9-10)
- Your neighbor always includes your physical neighbors, but who else should be considered a neighbor to you?
- What are some things you can pray about for your neighbors? Share some things you already are praying for a neighbor that you'd like the group to join you in.
- Where in your daily schedule would it fit to pray for your neighbors?