

Week 6 / Asking For a Friend / How do I combat the fear of the unknown?

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Philippians 4:6-7

Community Groups are used extensively as the primary vehicle for discipleship at The Gathering and run on a quarter system. There is one in the fall, one in the winter and one in the spring. During the summer weeks we don't meet in Community Groups but we still offer the Growth Guides as a tool to help you grow personally. The Growth Guides are designed to help you dig deeper into the weekly sermon on your own or with your family and are available each week along with the note sheets at church as well as online.

USE THIS GUIDE TO PREPARE FOR THE DISCUSSIONS IN COMMUNITY GROUP.

Consider...

Use the summary and discussion below to review and apply this week's message:

Message Summary

"How do I combat the fear of the unknown? Simply put, we turn to God who has overcome everything. So how do we do this...

- 1. **By Prayer**: Prayer is communication with God and allows us to understand or experience the words and will that He has for us. Through prayer we have relationship with God, which allows us to come boldly to speak and hear from Him. In prayer we are saying that we see God as Lord.
- 2. **By Supplication**: Supplication is asking or begging earnestly or humbly for God to move. Are we asking God to move in us or in our situation, knowing that comes only by having relationship with Him. Supplication must be accompanied with thanksgiving not only for what God has done but for who He is. Supplication says that we see that God is more powerful than anything and that He is in control.
- 3. **Making our request known to God**: We make our request known to God by prayer and supplication. We are letting God know that we see Him as Lord and that He has power to change us and our circumstances. When we make our request known, we know that God will move in accordance to His will.

Discuss

Use the following questions to review and apply the points learned in the message.

- How does understanding our fears help us to know where to turn when we experience them? Why
 do we tend to be slothful when we face our fears and not turn to God first?
- Combating our fears with prayer means we turn to God, how does knowing that God cares for us aid in our battle against these fears?
- What does your prayer life look like?
- Why is it difficult for us to come to God in supplication? Do we fear Him or are we sometimes too prideful to acknowledge that we cannot do things on our own?
- When we spend time in supplication, do you spend time listening for God to speak to you? How has God been changing you and your fears when you listen to Him?
- How have you seen God's peace from the act of making your request known to God? Have you allowed yourself to be molded by Him through these fears?
- How can you be alert of the attacks of Satan in your fears? How can we apply this message as we move forward in our walk with Christ?