



Part 6: Living In Between the Now and Not Yet

Note: We have provided you with more questions than you will likely need. Please don't feel pressure to talk about every question. Use the ones that you feel will be most useful in generating discussion in your group. Icebreaker

Ask

Share a time in your life when you had to wait a long time for something good to happen (or something you were looking forward to). What did it feel like when you were in the middle of the waiting process?

Hear

Play

Watch the first video clip that is on www.bridgeway.church/litk

Ask

- What stuck out to you from this clip?

LIVING INTO THE KINGDOM GROUPS

- Pastor Lance shared in the sermon that God can be glorified through our suffering, and He can be glorified through our healing. Ultimately, God determines what is best from His standpoint. Share a story you have heard or experienced of God being glorified through someone suffering well, or a story of God being glorified through someone's healing.

Read

Read the Parable of the Persistent Widow from Luke 18:1-8.

Ask

- What does this parable teach us about the process of prayer?
- Pastor Lance said that prayer is not a formula, it's a process. What is the difference between a formula and a process?

Say

Pastor Lance focused his teaching around one specific aspect of more authoritative Kingdom living: prayer for healing. Praying with authority means knowing what God is like, praying in Jesus' name, praying with fasting and praying persistently. Pastor Lance also referenced a story in Mark 9:14-29, where Jesus' disciples struggle to heal a demon-possessed boy, and Jesus ultimately says to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer."

Ask

- Which of the four elements of praying with authority (knowing what God is like, praying in Jesus' name, praying with fasting, and praying persistently) is most familiar to you? Which one is least familiar or more of a struggle for you?
- What are some strongholds in our world today that may require believers to pray with more persistence or pray with fasting?

Play

Watch the second video clip that is on www.bridgeway.church/litk.

Ask

LIVING INTO THE KINGDOM GROUPS

- What stuck out to you from the clip?
- Have you ever felt unworthy to pray for someone? How can Pastor Lance's comments in this clip give you more confidence as you pray?
- What are some other hesitations you've had in praying for others? How can remembering that God invites you to pray with His authority help you overcome those hesitations?
- Pastor Lance reminded us in the sermon that God is able, loving, and generous. How can those aspects of God's character give us greater boldness in prayer?

Apply

Say

Take a moment to think about the sermon and about our discussion. Consider if there is anything specific that God wants you to take and apply in your prayer life. *Allow for a minute or two for people to think.*

Ask

- What is something you've learned from the sermon and/or the discussion that you can apply in your prayer life?

Close

- Allow space for those in your group to share if they (or a loved one) are in need of healing. Spend time praying together for healing and remind your group that we are invited by God to pray in the name of Jesus. Encourage people in your group to pray, even if they don't have a lot of experience praying out loud, but also be careful to ensure everyone knows that no one is required to pray if it makes them uncomfortable. *Note: You may want to split your group into smaller groups, especially if your group is large, to make it easier for those who are not as comfortable praying in a large group.*
- *Mention the 40 day fast, WPH night and the Night of Preparation as a way for people to grow in prayer. We will have resources available for people who are new to fasting.*

Staff email addresses

Brian Kiley, Director of Discipleship- bkiley@bridgeway.church

Heather Johnson, Missional Communities Coordinator- hjohnson@bridgeway.church

Matt Bach, Director of Christian Development, mbach@bridgeway.church