

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Message: "THE PRIVILEGE OF PRAYER"
Series: An Audience with the King #1
Weekend: March 6/7, 2010
Speaker: Shan Rutherford
Verse of the week: *1 Thessalonians 5:17*



SETTING THE STAGE: (Choose a few of these to use)

- Who is the most powerful person you've ever met or spoken with? What did you talk about?
- Describe what it's like to approach the most awesome, powerful Being in the universe.
- Do you have a set, specific time for prayer? Why or why not?
- Are there any prayers you pray often that you'd be willing to share?
- Who has prayed specifically for you? How do you know? For whom do you regularly pray?
- How many conversations can you listen to at the same time? Have you ever had to call a "time out" because too many people were trying to talk to you at once? How do you suppose God hears all our prayers?

Explore & Apply:

- Read **Luke 11:1-13.**
 - Ever feel like you're bothering God with your requests? Why or why not?
 - Jesus said Himself that we should pray and not give up. Why do we sometimes struggle to persist in prayer?
- Whom could you ask to teach you to pray? Whom do you know who has a strong, active prayer life? How can you tell?
- Share about a prayer God has answered.
- Which prayer of yours did God seem to wait the longest to answer?
- How do we know there's power in prayer?
- What do you persistently pray for?

- How do you know whether what you're praying for is within God's will? Read **Ephesians 6:18** and **Romans 8:26-27**. What do these passages say about how we should pray, and the assistance we receive from the Lord?
- Shan said repeatedly, "The Father is listening." What does He hear from you? How often?
- Read **Hebrews 4:15-16**. How should we approach God in our prayers?
- We often tend to pray in times of crisis or major decision-making. **1 Thessalonians 5:17**, however, tells us to pray continually. Are these ideas compatible? Why or why not?



OUR VISION: To carry on the work of Jesus by loving God and loving others ...

OUR MISSION: Greenwood Christian Church exists to help people go **DEEP** ...

- **DISCOVER** new life in Jesus; *2 Corinthians 5:17; 1 Peter 3:15-16*
- **EXPERIENCE** belonging in the family of Jesus; *Acts 2:42-47; 4:32-35*
- **ENGAGE** our world with the love of Jesus; *Matthew 9:36; 28:18-20; Acts 1:8*
- **PURSUE** transformation into the likeness of Jesus; *Romans 12:1-2; Galatians 6:9*