



SMALL GROUP PRAYER PRACTICUM

“God, Give Us Wisdom That We May Know the Best Way”

Week 3 | September 24, 2017 | Philippians 1:9-11

Part 1 – Primer

1. When have you experienced someone making a big deal out of a matter that was not all that important in the whole scheme of things? When have you realized that you had neglected something very important?
2. When Paul prays that we would be able to discern what things are excellent and best, what sorts of things do you think he has in mind?
3. What percentage of your praying is for things of eternal value? Do you think your prayers should change? Why or why not?
4. How does Paul avoid making the pursuit of what is excellent an idolatrous exercise? How should his example apply to you?

Part 2 – Prayer Laboratory – Seeing and Discerning the Excellent Things

- Discipline #1 - Own the prayer for yourself. Ask that God would grant you more and more knowledge and depth of insight so that you may be able to discern those things in your life that are of ultimate value.
- Discipline #2 - Prayerfully audit some area of your life with an eye towards the amount of attention, time, energy, resources you are investing. It could be auditing your calendar or your bank statement; it could be auditing your thought life or your relationships. Ask God to give you the courage to be honest and to show you what is and is not excellent in that area of your life.
- Discipline #3 - Build an action plan for this week to bring this area of your life more and more in line with what is best.