



What the World Needs Now

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Focus God is calling all believers to a deeper place with Him where we are passionately pursuing His presence. We must make time in our everyday lives for intimacy with God. Prayers are answered in God's presence, and as we draw closer to Him, He will give us the tools we need for the spiritual battle around us.

Fun Share one or two ways God has answered a specific prayer request this past month. It can be something simple or it can be something miraculous. Take a moment to thank God for the good things He has done.

Review Key Scriptures: Isaiah 43:18–19; John 1:14; Matthew 5:6

- **Dwelling with God**

John 15:5

Dwelling with God requires us to trust Him completely. Many of us, however, have learned over time to give Him only part of our hearts, while keeping some of it hidden away. This is a trust issue. God wants us to trust Him completely. He is a good Father, and we are safe in His care.

- **Devotion to God**

Psalms 42:1–2

Jesus has the answers for all things, but we must press into Him before we can receive those answers. Devotion requires intimacy: intimacy with God through time and through relationship. We can't be close to God unless we first make time for our personal, daily relationship with Him. Just like a marriage takes time to cultivate intimacy on a daily basis, our relationship with God requires time.

- **Dependence on God**

Hebrews 5:7–8

Prayer is proof that we are dependent on God. The more confident we are in our ability to navigate life, the less we will pray. Pride makes us think we can do life on our own until we are desperate enough to admit we need God's presence. Prayer is the first step to submitting our lives to God. And prayer is what the world needs now.

Group Dynamics Idea We are almost halfway through our prayer series. Take time to share stories and testimonies of this time during the series and the 40-Day Prayer Challenge. What has changed in their daily lives? When people are given a chance to share something God has done in their life, or give praise to God for something, it changes the dynamic of the group and brings a sense of community.

Discuss

1. Read Psalm 91:9–16 and Proverbs 3:5. Is it important for us to trust God? Why or why not? What exactly is a trust issue with God and how does it look in our everyday lives? What does *total* trust in God look or feel like to you?
2. Read Jeremiah 29:13. Often our lack of trust in God can keep us from experiencing God's presence in our lives. What are some of those thoughts, doubts, or trust issues? Why do you think we sometimes believe those doubts over what Scripture says?
3. Sometimes our experiences don't match what we read in Scripture. This is never supposed to be a discouragement but rather a call to pursue God's presence in our lives. What steps can we take each day to pursue God's presence in our lives?
4. Have you ever had a problem in your life where God stepped in and answered your prayer or did a miracle? Share.
5. Is there currently a problem in your life where you need a miracle from Jesus? God wants to intervene in that area. If you are comfortable, share with the group an area of your life you would like to see a miracle. Then, take time to pray for each other that God would do a miracle in each situation.

Take Home

As we conclude, remember the following:

- Dwelling with God requires us to trust Him.

- Devotion to God requires intimacy.
- Dependence on God requires prayer.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for Your presence that is here with us right now. Thank You for the Holy Spirit and for Your miraculous power. Help us to pray about everything and never give up. Give us a plan to press into You so that we can experience Your presence in our lives each day. In Jesus' name, Amen.

New Leader Tip Be sure to build in some intentional times of rest for yourself, your family, and your group this summer.