

Brainstorm Notes – Monday

Week 3 Recap from pastors at brainstorm

Put 3:16 up on the screen and played Lump video from Rob Bell

Rubber ball – what represents that thing that keeps you from going to the Father. Asked people to throw the ball into a trashcan. Talked about abiding.

Talking about love. Jesus reset love by dying on the cross. What happens when people experience that love.

Adoption certificate – receive Jesus moment. People also re-engaged and reaffirmed.

Started with absurdity of God's love. Had people using wipes after the stamping saying "you are wiped clean – welcome to the family of God".

Hillary Clinton - Russia RESET button. (presented a mock button that was translated incorrectly) Button actually translated to overcharged or overrated.

Snapshot of the woman who washed Jesus' feet. Showed how Jesus reset love through forgiveness.

Bleeding woman – used an example of Jesus loving this outcast. Absurd love.

Young adults – took opportunity to affirm each person. Lots of tears and powerful emotion.

Told story about the challenge. Gave sacrificially but not happy about it. Good to talk about being in a group and participating in the process.

Used the adoption certificate. Instead of the thumbprint had them write their name and they wrote baptism date alongside the recommitment date. Bring it up to the offering plate. Asked them to come up to the alter. Certificates will be displayed as a mosaic.

Sat on the stage for 2 minutes doing nothing. Making the point about noise in our lives. People in pews really got uncomfortable wondering what was happening or rather why nothing was happening.

Week 4 - How do we reset the assumptions about prayer?

John 15:4 Jesus wants us to abide. From transactional to relational.

Share experiences about silence retreat. Noise deafens and blinds.

Prayer for enemies.

Is God really there. Does God really love me.

What are the challenges of prayer.

Challenge people to really come to the Prayer Experience. Challenge people to abide.

Reveal yourself song – prayer we can honestly bring to God.

Let God be God. It's not my explanation. It's God's power.

"Courtney" video. I don't get it. There's nothing to get. We abide.

Does having expectations cloud the relationship.

PRAY model.

Romans 8:26

Disciples request to learn about how to pray. Jesus begins to talk to them about some guidelines. God's sacred identity. Declare greatness. Your kingdom come is the first thing not the last thing. Forgive each other.

Luke 11 – Persistence.

Opens up people's hurts when they've not heard "answers".

NT Wright – prayer article (see blog)

Read through Psalms to learn more about God.

Luke 11:5-10 Shameless boldness – Jesus gives permission for people to be where they are and just boldly pursuing God in prayer. There is a tenderness there about the Father.

The more we wrestle the more God reveals our true heart.

Richard Foster – Prayer. God is not playing cat and mouse but he wants us to really want it.

C.S. Lewis – Shadowlands. Prayer is not changing God but it's changing us.

Sermon Spice – Prayer

Andrew Murray – (see blog)

Prayer can reset us and can throw us when we get answers.

Language of Fathers.

What assumptions are we specifically resetting?

Prayer is relational

I don't have the same "connection" as you (Priesthood of believers)

Prayer is a 2-way conversation (emphasis on listening)

Relationship of unequal's (ask

Sometimes too casual – we may not feel the love of the father

If I don't get "yes" - I prayed wrong or God doesn't love me

If I don't get "yes" – I don't have enough faith

God answers prayer – "yes" "no" "wait/maybe"

What about when we don't have a father here on earth? How do I make that connection with my creator Father?

Bruce Almighty – Post it note Scene. Say Yes to all creates chaos – what's the story behind the ask.

Erwin McManus Message – story of his son wanting to leave camp. Struggling with what it means to hear God.
Message Title: Prayer – Spiritual Activism.

Share a story from our own journey around waiting.

The effort of spiritual warfare is to get us to accuse the Father that he is not good.

God's good is not necessarily our definition of "good"

God wants us to come to him daily.

This journey is about resetting what we think about Jesus.

Abide in me. There is a relationship I can have with the father.

Engage with the father.

We want people to know they can talk to Jesus in prayer.

The essence of prayer changes when we go with a desire for relationship vs. getting stuff, or my will to be done. How do I desire the relationship vs. the stuff-getting.

What happens if we just hang out with God.

Pray believing that God is good.

It's like dating - investing in the relationship – should continue after marriage.

Just to be in your presence. The joy of silence.

Ask questions in prayer. Wait for an answer.

Parental relationship. Every time Jesus went to pray he goes off by himself.

He connects with the Father.

Luke 11:1 We can gather that the disciples saw his relationships with the father. They asked Jesus to teach them how to pray.

Try practicing prayer. Teach and practice and worship.

Prayer experiment in service also. Start with corporate worship. Guided prayer.

Talk through the Lord's Prayer – "Core Strength" series

Helpful to have some music to transition into the silence if doing prayer in service.