

INFO Everyone Needs . . .

Holy Uprising is going on! Daily Devotionals on front page of osocreek.org . . . Let's seek God's power together during these 40 days!

Baptisms – Feb 28th – call the office (993-4463)

Easter Festival will be on *April 3rd*! How is your group signed up to serve? Let Audie know how your group will help love our neighbors!

Objective: That we would daily live out the practices that draw us nearer to Jesus

Icebreaker: What area of your life is the most difficult for you to discipline yourself in? Why?

Worship: As you sing/pray/bless God, thank him for the tools and practices He brought to us to obtain a closer relationship with Him.

Read: Matthew 6:1-4 **Giving to the needy**

There is plenty of need in this world. Talk about what is on your heart, your Life Groups heart and the Church as a whole in terms of the needy. Where is there need and where can you help. Most importantly, how can you do this without everyone else in the group knowing? Why would it be that God wants this done in such a way as the left hand doesn't know what the right hand is doing? If you gave to Haiti, how did you do it? Do you consider the Church needy? What would you care to do about it?

Read: Matthew 6:5 – 15 **Prayer, and the Lord's Prayer no less**

Discuss how you pray, where you pray, when you pray. What is Matthew talking about when he says in verse 7 "and when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words."

Read the Lord's Prayer together out loud.

The Lord's Prayer is one of the most well known and used prayers, and can become rote. What do you do to keep it real?

Read: Matthew 6:16-18 **Fasting**

Have you ever fasted? How did you use the experience to seek God's presence? If so what can you share with the group to help use this activity to spend more time with God?

These practices come from God. They are things that we can do to break out of the everyday minutiae to experience a more intense relationship with God.

Question:

What other 'spiritual practices' has your group done individually or corporately to help bring you closer to God?

What has your group done individually or corporately in this arena to help bring those in your sphere of influence closer to God?

What has your group done individually or corporately in this arena to help bring those in the world closer to God?

Prayer: Abba Father, we realize that just trying to talk about these practices that you have provided for us will bring on a struggle. The one who opposes us will attempt to trip us up while we seek to bring our selves closer to You. We need You and understand that we will not get there on our own steam. Grant us peace and strength to make this journey as we draw close to the time of celebration of your return.
Amen