



# AWAKEN

## Week 4

### BREAKING THE ICE

What new things has God revealed to you in the last few weeks of Awaken?

What are some things that bring joy to your life?

### MAIN CONTENT

This week Pastor Kevin wrapped up our Awaken series talking about the power of prayer. When we know someone is praying for us it lifts our spirits and helps us know we are not alone.

1. Talk about a time someone prayed for you and the effect it had on you.

When we pray for one another, God hears those prayers. Those prayers last forever. Praying for one another brings unity. Not only should we pray for one another but we need to remember that Jesus prays for us. Romans 8:34 tells us that Jesus intercedes for us.

2. What are some things you hope or know Jesus is praying for you?

Jesus spent days in prayer with the Father. We see in the Bible where He spent 40 days praying and fasting. He prayed for Himself, His disciples and those who follow Him. Jesus knew how to pray and taught us about His prayer in John 17.

Read John 17: 1-5

The first thing we see Jesus pray about is that we would have eternal life. Eternal life is not just about heaven, it's about knowing God. When we have a deep, meaningful relationship with Him; we experience His power, presence and favor. God wants us to have a vibrant, life-giving relationship with Him. A relationship that is not to just know about Him, but to also know Him personally.

3. How deep and personal is your relationship with God? What does your personal relationship with Him look like?

When our relationship with God is personal, we want the same things He wants. One of the things God wants is unity among His people. Unity is the second thing we see Jesus pray for.

In John 17:9-11 we see where Jesus prays for unity among those who follow Him. Jesus prays that we would have unity regarding Him, His message and the mission to tell others about Him. We can spend our time arguing about small things that don't matter or we can spend time telling those who don't know Jesus about His love. Jesus wants us to be unified and spend our time sharing His love with those around us; not arguing over small things that don't matter.

4. What are some things you need to let go of in order to be more unified with other followers of Jesus?

Pastor Kevin said, "If unity fosters belief, disunity fosters unbelief". It's important to be unified with the love of Christ so others can come to know Him.

When we are unified as followers of Jesus it bothers the enemy. He would like to keep us at odds with one another so we don't share about the love of Jesus with others. The third thing Jesus prays for us is protection because the enemy wants to harm us.

Read John 17:11-12A

Jesus prays for our protection from the world. We can believe that the things of the world are going to protect us or we can trust that God will protect us. God wants only the best for us so He prays that we stay connected to Him and trust Him, and He in turn wants to protect us from the enemy who wants to harm us.

5. Where do you need God's protection right now in your life?

Within His protection, He provides peace and joy. Joy is the last thing we see Jesus pray for in John 17. Joy is not the same thing as being happy. Happiness comes and goes. A life filled with joy is knowing no matter what happens we can have joy because God always has a plan for us. We have access to His joy when we choose to accept it.

6. Where do you currently need to experience God's joy in your life?

## CLOSING PRAYER

God, just as we pray to you, your Son prays for us. Thank you for the reminder that Jesus is always praying for us. He wants the best for us just like you do. Help us know you intimately God so that we can bring forth unity in this world. Please show us where we have let small things get between us and other believers. Help us to be unified so we can share the truth about your love. Thank you for protecting us from the enemy. Please continue to show us where we need to trust in your protection and not lean into trusting ourselves. Thank you for the joy you give us. Will you please help us experience your true joy in our relationship with you? Amen.

## ACTION STEP

+ Awaken Night of Worship is Tuesday at the Nashville Campus! Doors open at 6:15 PM and worship starts at 6:30 PM. Join us for a night of worship as we thank God for the things He has done during the last month of prayer and fasting in February.

+ Pray and ask God to search your heart for any disunity you have in your life. Confess and repent to Him and to those who you have been in disunity with. Ask God to mend those relationships.

+ The month of prayer and fasting may be coming to an end, but God wants us to continue to have faith and draw near to Him. Talk and pray with the group about what you feel God is calling your group to do next in your walk with Him. Some ideas include: serving together locally, volunteering together at your campus, going on a global trip this year together or continuing Bible reading together.