



Discussion Questions

Matthew 26:36-46 *Jesus Prays in Gethsemane*

All of us have experienced prayer in a hard season, when our prayers seem to go no higher than the ceiling. How do you navigate these dry seasons when the Lord seems distant or unreachable? What questions do you ask? What answers have you found?

“If you’re feeling distant from God, God has not moved.” Deacon Lynette suggests several things that might block our prayer life—not asking God, sin, relational conflicts, uncaring attitudes, and finally, the broken world broken world we live in. What do you think most often causes lapses in your prayer life? What breaks down the walls between you and God?

Have you or someone you know ever been told that your prayers are not answered as you hoped because you lack faith? How did that make you feel? Do you agree with that statement?

Lynette suggests that prayer in the joyous moments of our lives is easy, and prayer in the most stressful and painful moments of our lives is easy. It’s the middle ground, when we are coasting along feeling in control of things, that we tend to drift away from prayer. Has this been true in your life? How has God called you back into relationship?

Lynette shares a time in her life when she was unable to pray, but she experienced God’s grace and mercy through the prayers of her congregation, particularly the prayers of Grandma Doris. These prayers carried Lynette during the desert time in her faith life. Who has carried you when you have been unable to pray? Whom have you carried?

