# **COLONIAL HILLS 2023**

PRAYER APRIL 16 2023 OLIVE BRANCH CAMPUS



#### **KEY SCRIPTURE**

Matthew 6:5-13 2 Kings 19:14-19

# START TALKING. Find a conversation starter for your group.

• What is the greatest answer to prayer that you have ever seen?

## START THINKING. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

• Why is prayer often such hard work?

## **START SHARING**. Choose a question to create openness.

- Read Matthew 6:5-8. In what way can the very act of prayer be hypocritical according to Jesus? How does praying "in secret" demonstrate faith in God? Why does it so often feel like God is hiding from us when we pray? How do you deal with that?
- Read Matthew 6:9-13. How do you enter the presence of God in prayer?
- Read 2 Kings 19:14-19. How does Hezekiah's prayer beautifully
  illustrate what it means to really recognize whom you are praying to
  when you enter God's presence? Why is this so important?
- How do you discern God's will about your prayers? Why is there always a battle between "Thy will be done," and "my will be done?" How do you die to this?
- Why are we instructed only to ask God for our "daily" bread?
- Why is confession of sin and forgiveness of others so crucial to our prayer life?
- How can prayer help to protect us from temptation and sin?

#### **START PRAYING**. Be bold and pray with power.

Ask God to teach you how to hear and seek his will in the burdens you
are lifting to him.

**START DOING**. Commit to a step and live it out this week. Practice getting quiet before you pray.