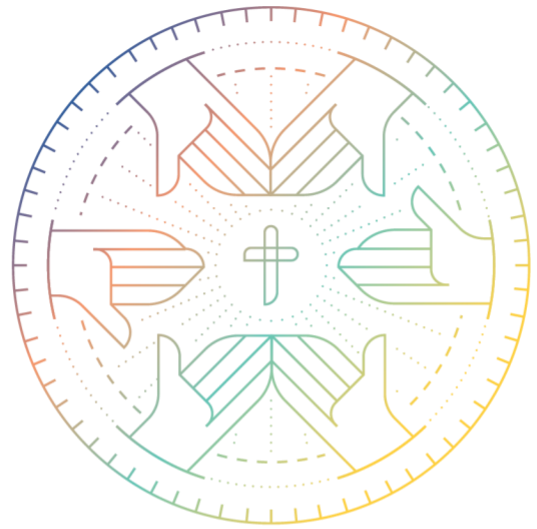


# Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER



## ICEBREAKER (10 MINUTES)

When you pray, how do you personally refer to God (by what name) and what significance does that name hold for you?

Does your family use nicknames for family members? If so, what nicknames do they use? Do you have a nickname?

## INTRODUCTION (5-10 MINUTES)

What most stood out to you from this week's sermon?

The title, "I Am" (Ex. 3:14) is layered with so much meaning. How does that title encourage you today?

## INTO THE WORD (25 MINUTES)

**Read Numbers 6:22-27.** Aaron and his sons are told to bless the people of Israel using the name, Yahweh, and highlighting Yahweh's love and favor toward his people. How does Aaron's blessing add even more understanding to God's name, "Yahweh"?

**HOST Guidance:** Our God is a blessing and protecting God. He watches over us, cares for our well-being. He desires good for us. God smiles on us, delights in us, and is lavish toward us. God knows us inside and out. He wants us to be in health and to prosper. He wants us to experience his peace.

**Read Zephaniah 3:14-17.** Take a moment to point out the five statements David spoke about within the passage. Discuss how each of the five statements find their expression in the New Testament.

**HOST Guidance:** We know that through Jesus, our sins have been forgiven and we have passed from death to life. Judgement has been taken away. (John 3:16-18) Jesus promised he would be with us always, even to the end of the age. (Matt. 28:20) God gives us a peace, or a calm, which

passes understanding. (Phil. 4:7) God delights in us and has proven his delight by sending his Son into the world so that we can live through him. (John 3:16; Rom. 5:8) God's thoughts toward us parallel the truth that not even one small bird falls to the ground except that God knows it already. (Matt. 10:29-31)

**Read Matthew 6:9-13.** The early church adopted Jesus' model for prayer from its earliest days. How does this prayer further reveal the nature of our heavenly Father?

**HOST Guidance:** He is holy; he is coming back to make everything right; his will shall be done by all; he is perfect and wants his perfect nature to be our guide and strength; he wants us to experience heaven; he wants to meet all of our needs, from our daily bread even to the forgiveness of our sins; he loves his people; he is a lavish and generous God.

### APPLICATION (10 MINUTES)

- Which of the five statements do you most need to hear today or this week? Can you share the "why" with your group?  
Our Heavenly Father...
  1. Has removed our judgement
  2. Is never far away
  3. Is overjoyed with you
  4. Can quiet you with His love
  5. Has so much to say to and about you
- Is there a way you can use the five statements each day as a reminder of your heavenly Father's love for you? If you've already done that each day, how did that affect you?
- Psalm 9:10 says, "And those who know your name put their trust in you" What have you heard in the sermon or this study that causes you to put your trust in God?
- Close your time together reading The Lord's Prayer in unison as an expression of your worship of the Father.

### PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for revealing yourself to us so beautifully through your names. Today, we are reminded that you have taken away our judgement through the forgiveness we have received through Jesus. Your love for us will never change. Please heighten our awareness of your love for us. Teach us that you delight over us, rather than being angry or annoyed with us. May that wonderful truth motivate us to walk with you with you this week. In Jesus name. Amen.