

1: ARE YOU INVOLVED IN ANYONE'S SECRET HISTORY?

Is there a person or group of people you are praying for or have been praying for, for a long time?

2: HOW DO WE NOT GIVE UP?

There is a call on each one of us to persevere, not give up but this isn't always easy, how can we keep going?

We often feel like nothing happens when we pray. It is sometimes a challenge to think that **"EVERY TIME WE PRAY SOMETHING HAPPENS"**. Are you part of a community, or do you have people in your life you will say to you **"DON'T GIVE UP"** is there anyone you need to go and say **"KEEP GOING"** too?

READ **MATTHEW 6:6**

Not all the prayers we pray are public or in a prayer room, often they are the secret longings of our hearts that we pour out to the Lord late at night or in a quiet moment it's helpful to remember **"THEN YOUR FATHER, WHO SEES WHAT IS DONE IN SECRET, WILL REWARD YOU"**.

READ ALOUD **LUKE 15: 11-32**. How does this story impact you?

Whilst the son had been away incidents had occurred that would eventually cause him to turn from all he was involved in and head for home. The father could not see these incidents, he did not know what was happening yet he was faithful, he kept watching, he kept looking and one day the son found his way home. For many of us there are those we know who need to find their way home, we have to be faithful and keep watching, keep praying until it happens.

As a group how do you cope with the tension of living in a results driven society whilst not always seeing the instant results of your prayers? How do we live with long term unanswered prayer?

REFLECT

Abraham Lincoln once said **"I REMEMBER MY MOTHER'S PRAYERS AND THEY HAVE ALWAYS FOLLOWED ME. THEY HAVE CLUNG TO ME ALL MY LIFE."**

Write down a list of people you are praying for, maybe write their names on a stone, or a book mark, or put a picture of them on your phone or computer. The big ask is that you would commit to praying for these people for the rest of your life?

PRAY

Father God, we pray today for those we love and those we care about, that you would establish a stronghold in their lives, that you would cling to them, that you would haunt them and that they would find their way home. God give us the strength to persevere, to not give up and to be involved in the secret histories of this world. **For the sake of Your Kingdom, Amen**