



Hey God: Networking | May 31, 2017

Discussion Guide

The Scoop

Prayer is like Networking with God. Making requests on behalf of others is the best kind of favor to ask.

Key Verse

John 11:5-8 (NIV)

Then Jesus said to them, “Suppose you have a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have no food to offer him.’ And suppose the one inside answers, ‘Don’t bother me. The door is already locked, and my children and I are in bed. I can’t get up and give you anything.’ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give you the bread because of friendship, yet because of your shameless audacity he will surely get up and give you as much as you need.

Discussion

One of the most important parts of career building and job hunting is networking. Even beyond that, the best form of networking is a connection through someone else. In his book *Do Over*, Jon Acuff says the most powerful networking tool is the person who is willing to ask on your behalf. It lends credibility and is the most powerful tool in your networking toolbox.

1. What type of networking have you done?
2. If you had to get a new job right now, what networking connections would you leverage?

What if we approached prayer like networking? In John 11:5-8, Jesus gives us an example of a 3rd party networking type ask. A man asks a neighbor for food on behalf of his friend. Jesus explains that the man will not give you bread because he knows you, but he will as a result of your audacity to ask on behalf of another.

3. Can you think of a time when you prayed for someone else? What for?

If we take it a step further, networking with God through prayer also opens our eyes to the part we can play in the lives of others and our community. Sometimes when we ask, God shows us a solution inside of us. Prayer is not always a 1-1 exchange, but rather a way of brainstorming and problem solving with God.

4. Have you ever felt like God help you solve a problem you brought to Him? Explain.
5. What is an example of a networking prayer problem you would like to solve with God?

What’s Next?

Many times our prayer lives are pretty self focused. As a result of this week’s discussion, focus your prayers on others. Engage God on behalf of other people. This week think through who in your life needs your prayers? What organizations need to be connected to God? And what might God be asking you to be a part of as a result of networking with Him?