

iSearch  
Wk 3/3: iPray  
December 19 & 20, 2020



## LEADER PREP

### GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

For students to take steps toward being able to TRUST that even when they don't FEEL God, they can still KNOW He is there.

### STUDENT QUESTIONS

Today's discussion is centered around this question from a survey of middle school students:  
"I don't feel anything when I talk to God; how do I get an answer from God?"

### SCRIPTURE

Psalm 13:1-2, 5-6, &  
Matthew 7:7-8

*This guide is a suggestion, not a formula. Adjust the questions and activities as needed, and don't feel like you need to do, or ask, everything you see here. Let the students and the Holy Spirit guide the conversation, too.*

## CONVERSATION GUIDE

### MAIN POINT

**We can not always feel God,  
but we can always trust He is there.**

### GET THEM TALKING

What is your favorite feeling from Inside Out and why? (Joy, Sadness, Anger, Fear, Disgust)

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When is a time where you felt something that was untrue? (i.e., You felt there were monsters under your bed OR felt a friend was mad at you when they weren't)
2. Why can't we always trust our feelings?

### **READ PSALM 13:1-2 & 5-6. Answer the following questions:**

3. What kind of feelings is David expressing in the first two verses? What about the last two verses?
4. David felt like God wasn't there, but He still trusted in God's love. How do you think David was able to do both?
5. Can you share about a time where it didn't feel like God was there?
6. Do you trust God is always with you? Why or why not?
7. How can you remind yourself God is there when it does not feel like it?

### **READ MATTHEW 7:7-8 and answer the following questions:**

8. Do you think God wants us to talk to Him? How do you know?
9. Does God want to answer us? How do you know?
10. Can you share a time when you prayed and either haven't heard or understood God's answer?
11. God is a good father. Sometimes good fathers give the answer "No" or "Not now" to their children. Why do you think sometimes God gives us those answers?
12. How can you trust God is with you, even if you don't see or feel an answer to a prayer?

### NEXT STEP & PRAYER GUIDE

Instead of just talking about prayer, let's take time to pray for one another. Divide your students up in groups of 2-3 and have them each share something they'd like their group to pray for. Lead your students to pray for each other in their groups. Close your time together in prayer.

## SCRIPTURE

MS students are concrete thinkers, so opening your Bible to read the Scripture with them is a preferred visual cue.

### PSALM 13:1-2 & 5-6 (NLT)

“O LORD, how long will you forget me? Forever?  
How long will you look the other way?  
<sup>2</sup> How long must I struggle with anguish in my soul,  
with sorrow in my heart every day?  
How long will my enemy have the upper hand?....  
<sup>5</sup> But I trust in your unfailing love.  
I will rejoice because you have rescued me.  
<sup>6</sup> I will sing to the LORD  
because He is good to me.”

### MATTHEW 7:7-8 (NLT)

“Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. <sup>8</sup> For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.