



Small Group Work Sheet

John 16:16-33 - Everything is About to Change

July 28, 2013

Part 1 - Ice Breaker

1. In this passage, Jesus promises that God the Father will answer our prayers that are made in Jesus' name. Looking back, what are some ways that God has answered prayer in your own life? In the lives of those you know?

Part 2 - Sermon Review

2. Read John 16:20-22; 20:19-23. Jesus states that their sorrow would turn to joy after the resurrection. How does the resurrection give us joy in the midst of *our* sorrow and grief? How does the promise of the second coming give us joy in the midst of despair? How does this joy influence the way that we pray?

3. Read John 16:23-24. Jesus spends a significant amount of time in this passage discussing prayer and its power. How does prayer ensure that your joy is full (v. 24)?

- a. In our fast-paced and busy culture, prayer is often difficult. Do you find it hard to pray? Do you tend to pray as a last resort or a first impulse?

- b. What are some practical ways that you help yourself pray?

4. Read John 16:25-28; 14:12-14. What does it mean to pray in Jesus' name? Texts such as these are often abused; how do you reconcile Jesus' promise here with the reality that sometimes prayers go (seemingly) unanswered?
5. Read John 16:31-33; 1 John 4:4; 5:4. How is Jesus' victory over the world the foundation for our ability to pray?