

# Personal Liturgy

## Week 14: Freedom from A Life-Long Temper Tantrum

*"Prayer gives us relief from the melancholy burden of self-absorption."*

--Tim Keller, Prayer

### Catch Up On Life:

*This is when we update each other on the day in and day out happenings of our lives. As church family, we care about each other's lives: what we're celebrating, what we're mourning, what decisions we're praying through, and everything in between. (1 Thessalonians 2:8, Romans 12:10 and 15)*

- Celebrate the wins - where have you seen Jesus at work in the last week (growing you or working in others that God's put around you)?
- What (if any) life updates do you need to catch us up on (positive or negative)?

**Pray:** Take every opportunity to pray and thank God for the good He's doing in our lives, and ask for help and healing anywhere there is pain.

### Review the Mission:

*Just like God the Father sent Jesus on a mission of reconciliation for us, Jesus sends us as ambassadors of reconciliation. We are called to make disciples wherever we go. (John 20:21 and 2 Corinthians 5:18-20)*

#### 1. People:

- Reactive - Who in your life (family, coworkers, etc.) can we join you in praying for? Who has God put around you that is showing spiritual interest? Who is hurting and could use some love from our group?
- Proactive - Who are the people we are intentionally living on mission with (Neighborhood, STC partner or specific demographic in Columbia)? What are our upcoming plans to love, serve and build relationships with this group?

#### 2. Plan:

- Are there any rhythms already planned, or an extra rhythm we could plan to create a way for these friends to connect with our group?

**Pray:** Prayer is the fuel of God's mission. Let's pray for our people by name; pray for their needs, and opportunities to have spiritual conversations that help them take next steps toward Jesus.

## Sermon Discussion:

*God uses His Word to help us know Him, to equip us, to show us our sin, and to strengthen us as we follow Him. We preach the Word on Sundays and apply it as a LifeGroup throughout the week. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Colossians 1:9-12 and James 1:22-25)*

**Primary Passages:** John 12:23-33

**Read and Recap:** Have someone read John 12:23-33 and recap the highlights from this week's sermon.

- What does Jesus mean in v. 24-25 that when He sees like a seed, you have to die and give your life away in order to find life?
- In what areas of your life are you guilty of throwing "adult temper-tantrums"? What do you find yourself complaining and grumbling about most often in life?
- Who in your life are you bitter toward? (Consider LG, family, coworkers. If married, consider your spouse and kids.) Could any of your bitterness be rooted in the belief that the relationship is supposed to be all about you?
  - What is your plan to confess, apologize and repent?
- How much frustration do you deal with at work or school? Is any of driven by self-absorption -- you're frustrated because it isn't tailor-made to your preferences?
  - How will your perspective on work change as you repent from self-absorption?

**Personal Liturgy challenge:** Who are you praying for this week as an act of repentance and reflection on Jesus' incredible life of self-sacrifice?

**Pray:** Ask God's Spirit to reveal and convict us of ways we have a self-absorbed mindset. Ask God's Spirit to show us opportunities to think of others by serving them and praying for them.

## Engage the Heart:

*Jesus calls us to walk in the light, confessing our sins to God and each other. God's Spirit works through confession and community to lead us to repentance. (Romans 3:23-24, James 5:16 and 1 John 1:5-10)*

- What sinful thoughts, actions, or words from the past week do you need to confess? Specifically, has God convicted you regarding cynicism through the sermon?
- How does the gospel specifically address and free you up in this area? (Rest of LG speak into their lives: How does the gospel address and free him/her up?)
- What steps of repentance do you need to take? How can we help you walk in repentance?

**Pray:** James tells us that a community that regularly confesses sin and prays for each other will see a lot of healing. Confess your sins in prayer and pray for each other.