



WEEK 4: DELIVER US

Ice Breaker: What's the best vacation you've ever been on? What made it so great?

Scripture depicts the reality that we live in something of a spiritual war-zone, even though we are inclined to live as if we're on vacation. The Lord's Prayer calls us back to reality, asking God to not allow us to be overcome with the war and instead, to deliver us from the enemy.

Getting Started.

- Do you approach life more like you're in a spiritual war or on a vacation?
- How does the enemy tend to ensnare you?
- How does the 'vacation mentality' manifest itself for you?

Read Matthew 6:9-13. Focus on 13 ("...and lead us not...deliver us...").

And lead us not into temptation:

- Michael talked about "lead us not..." in terms of "don't allow us to become overwhelmed..." What has overwhelmed you in the past? What overwhelms you now?
- When you feel overwhelmed, what are some common temptations?
- Can you think of a time where God delivered you from an overwhelming temptation/trial?
- What temptation do you need to ask God to help you overcome?
- What would change if you remembered to cry out to God in the overwhelming situation?

But deliver us from the evil one:

- Do you lean towards obsessing over evil, or ignoring it?
- Read Ephesians 6:11. How have you mistakenly viewed 'flesh and blood' as the enemy?
- Read 1 Peter 5:8. Where do you need to be more alert and of sober mind?
- Jesus describes the enemy as "a liar and the father of lies" (John 8:44).
 - Which of his lies have you been led to believe?
 - In what form do his lies come to you?
 - Where can you re-connect with the truth? In what sources do you find truth?

Praying for Deliverance.

- How does verse 13 challenge the way you think about prayer?
- When/if you pray, do you boldly ask God for real deliverance - or is it more sugar coated?
- How should we pray for deliverance for the world around us?

LET'S PRAY!

Where is the enemy at work in your life, where you need deliverance?

This is a very personal/deep question that you may not feel comfortable answering. Don't sweat it. For today's meeting, break up into groups of 3-4 (men/women) for prayer and consider sharing your answer. If you're not comfortable sharing it, just have them pray for you without knowing the details...but consider sharing it with someone soon! And remember: this week we are praying for our marriages, so don't forget to pray for them too (tonight, and all week)!

#PARKPRAYS