

<p><b>Theme &amp; Passages</b></p>	<p><b>Prayer: Unanswered Prayer</b> Mark 14:32-36, Daniel 3, Romans 5:3-5</p>	<p>Notes prepared by Caroline Oliveira &amp; Gill Hawkins</p>
<p><b>Preparation</b></p>	<p>In order to play the video, you will need a TV or computer screen that everyone can see and an internet connection.</p>	
<p><b>Welcome (5 mins)</b></p>	<p>When it comes to answering emails, letters or texts do you always, sometimes, or rarely reply and why? How do you tend to think when you send a message that receives no reply?</p>	
<p><b>Introduction (5 mins)</b></p>	<p><b>Read</b> today's key verse: "Your will be done" – Matthew 6:10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In this session we'll be tackling the challenges and realities when our prayers aren't answered.</li> <li>Begin the session by opening in prayer.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Video (20 mins)</b></p>	<p><b>Watch</b> this 20 minute video: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QjrZ6wCS2eM&amp;t=2s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QjrZ6wCS2eM&amp;t=2s</a></p> <p>Summary points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Bible is honest about unanswered prayer – we are part of a faith that is all about wrestling</li> <li>God's world, God's war, God's will</li> <li>God's silence is not the same as his absence.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Discussion (20 minutes)</b></p>	<p><b>Discuss</b> the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What did you find most helpful or most challenging in the video?</li> <li>How has the reality of unanswered prayer affected your relationship with God?</li> <li>Have you ever felt God's silence/absence in seasons of your life and faith? How did you respond?</li> </ul> <p>Pete says, <b>"We are part of a faith that is all about wrestling"</b>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How do you think we can get better, as communities, at dealing with the realities and challenges of unanswered prayer?</li> <li>How can we encourage one another in "faithfulness" as well as "faith"?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Do it (15 mins)</b></p>	<p>Pete says that, <b>"Even when we don't understand, we can still trust"</b>. Take time to stop, pause and recommit to trusting God together as a group. You might like to play some worship music and spend time sitting and reflecting.</p> <p><b>Leader's note:</b> If this is a difficult step for members of your group, you might like to pray specifically into their situation, or you might like to read a Psalm of Lament together (click here: <a href="https://downloads.24-7prayer.com/prayer_course/2019/resources/pdfs/16%20How%20to%20Lament.pdf">https://downloads.24-7prayer.com/prayer_course/2019/resources/pdfs/16%20How%20to%20Lament.pdf</a> for instructions and directions on this).</p>	