



"STILL WORKS" – That Awkward Silence (Matthew 6:5-19)
September 28, 2014 – TABLE GROUP GUIDE

Begin by reading the devotion inside the bulletin. This is also posted online on facebook.com/fcctown and at fcctown.com/media.php under the sermon video.

Looking Back

- 1) During this past week, where have you seen God's hand at work in or around you?
- 2) What is the greatest encouragement or challenge you have experienced this week?

If you were unable to attend worship on Sunday, please go to fcctown.com and watch Sunday's sermon prior to meeting with your weekly table group.

Prayer was taught by Jesus, modeled by Jesus and shared by Jesus. There were times when he got away by himself to pray. And there were times when he sought to pray together with those closest to him. There were times when he prayed for other people and times when he prayed for himself. In his great teaching on prayer he gave an example that we call the Lord's Prayer. Stuart shared an acrostic in the sermon that we can use as a model for our prayer time. Complete the acrostic:

A - _____

C - _____

T - _____

S - _____

Digging Deeper

Were you taught any prayers as a child? What was one of the earliest one you can recall?

Read Matthew 6:5-8

Jesus began by saying "And when you pray...." (v 5). He simply assumed the disciples would have a regular time for prayer. That's a big assumption to make about Jesus' disciples today. Most of us struggle to find the time for daily prayer. What makes it difficult for you to find a regular daily time for prayer?

If we want to develop in any area – piano, basketball, physical fitness – we practice regularly. People who are serious about something always make room for it in their schedules. What is something that you always make room for in your schedule because it is important?

What do you do or would you have to do to make room for prayer in your schedule?

In verse 6 Jesus says "But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray...." Why did Jesus think it would be important for his disciples to go into their room to pray? Why is it important for us "to go into our room to pray"?

In verse 7 Jesus says "And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words." Why did Jesus give this instruction?

How can you make prayer an important part of your relationship with Jesus?

Moving Forward

Considering this week's teaching and group discussion, what can your table group do or pray for you?

If you would like to talk with a minister, please call (270) 765-4994 to set up an appointment or contact:

Stuart Jones stuart@fcctown.com Senior Minister
Chris Kiger chris@fcctown.com Student Minister
Jason Fox jason@fcctown.com Small Group Minister

Doug Mitchell doug@fcctown.com Connections Minister
Shannon Smith Shannon@fcctown.com Assistant Children's Director



What are the purposes of a table group? To dig deeper into the Biblical principle(s) presented each Sunday morning during the FCC worship hour, to connect and share with other group members and to support one another as we strive to live out each week's teaching.

What does a table group do? A group discussion guide will be provided in the bulletin each Sunday and will be available on the FCC Facebook page by noon on Monday. The discussion guide will focus the group and challenge each participant to action.

Who establishes and makes up a table group?

1. Husband & Wife
2. Family
3. 2-5 Guys
4. 2-5 Ladies
5. 2-5 Couples

Where do they meet?

1. Kitchen table
2. Coffee table
3. Cafe table
4. Restaurant table
5. Picnic table
6. Work table
7. Round table

How often do they meet? Weekly (day and time is decided by the group)

How long should the weekly meeting last? Varies (decided by the group)

Who leads a table group? Leadership can be shared or a leader can be chosen by the group.

How long does the group stay together? The group should commit to stay together 6-8 weeks. Groups can renew their commitment to meet together for another season (6-8 weeks).

Is a table group an official FCC group? Table groups are not organized by FCC but are provided as opportunities for individuals to connect and become better followers of Jesus. FCC would like to know how this opportunity is being utilized. When your group establishes a place, time, and participants, please report to Doug Mitchell at (270) 765-4994 or doug@fccetown.com.

Can an individual be a part of more than one table group? Yes, but our goal is that every individual attending a worship service be a part of at least one table group.

What happens if the group is too big to meet around a table? No table group should have more than 10 individuals. If a group grows to have more than 10 participants, there are two options:

- 1) Multiply into separate tables (groups of less than 10). Or
- 2) Seek to establish a life group (10-20 participants). To establish a life group, contact Doug Mitchell at (270) 765-4994 or doug@fccetown.com.