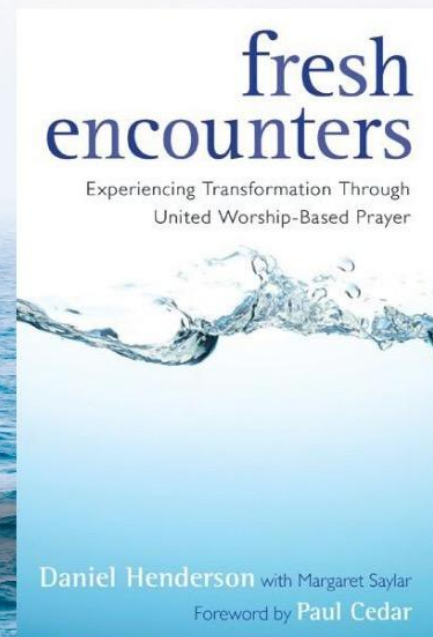


SAVE THE DATE
MCEACHERN
PRAYER SUMMIT
FEB 25-26, 2022

Based on Fresh
Encounters by
Daniel Henderson



Fresh Encounters

Leaders Guide

Introduction

- Preparation

Supplies Needed: large paper, marker, index cards, pens

- Introduction & Icebreaker
- Group Schedule - For Example: (Arrival – group icebreaker – 10 minutes, Discussion and Sharing – 45 minutes, Group Prayer Time 15 minutes).

- Group Exercise

You will need: 2 large sheets of butcher paper and a marker

1st sheet or paper: Ask the group - What are your beliefs about prayer? The power of prayer? What is possible through prayer? (Scriptural references located in attached Appendix B)

2nd sheet of paper: What struggles do you have in prayer? What things are hard for you about prayer? What fears do you have about prayer? What prevents you from seeking God in prayer? Validate their responses.

It's important to point out that we all have struggles in prayer and we are going to work through these together. Look back at the first sheet. Ask if all of the things possible through prayer are worth pushing through the struggles.

- Introduce *fresh encounters* study.

Hand out the books and study guides. Invite the group to look at the Table of Contents and ask them which chapter titles are intriguing to them and why.

Be sure to point out that there are Prayer Points and Prayer Practices at the end the discussion questions each week. Encourage your group members to read and answer the questions early in the week so that they will have time to reflect on the material. Encourage them to pray the Prayer Points and incorporate the Prayer Practices throughout the week. The experience will have minimal impact if they are hurriedly reading the chapter on their way to class each week.

- Let group members know of upcoming dates: McEachern Prayer Summit – Friday, February 25th 6:00pm to 8:00pm and Saturday February 26th from 9:00am to 3:00pm (breakfast served 7:30am - 8:30am, lunch served 12:00noon – 1:00pm).
- Group Prayer Time: First, give each person an index card and a pen. Ask them to write their name on the card and to write what struggle/struggles they have in prayer (basically what was shared on the 2nd sheet in the Group Exercise).

Secondly, ask them to write what they hope God will accomplish in their life through the *fresh encounter* group experience. Ask each person to pass the card to the person on their left. Ask each person to simply pray for the person next to them about the need expressed on the card. As the leader, begin the prayer time to model and then close the prayer time after everyone has prayed. Encourage them to press through any fears or hesitation. Affirm that God is looking at the sincerity of our hearts and not the eloquence of our prayers.

Encourage them to take home the card (from the person to their left) and continue praying for that person in the upcoming week.

Session 1

- Preparation

Cut out Scripture Prayer Cards in the attached Appendix C of this Leaders Guide.

- Arrival, Group Icebreaker
- Discussion and Sharing from *fresh encounters* study guide – Session 1
- Encourage group members to sign up for the Prayer Summit
- Group Prayer Time

Discuss with your group how important it is for us to pray Scripture. Isaiah 55:11 says, “My Word that goes out from my mouth will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.” Choose a couple of Scriptures and model how to pray them.

For example, if someone is struggling with fear, you can look up the word “fear” in the concordance in the back of your Bible. If you don’t have one, you can go to a website such as biblegateway.com, type in the word “fear,” and every scripture with the word “fear” in it will be displayed.

Example of Prayer: “When I am afraid, I will trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I will not be afraid.” (Psalm 56:3) God, thank you that have not given me a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and a sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7). Father, thank you that perfect love casts out fear (1 John 4:18).

Cut out the Scripture Prayer Cards in the Appendix C of this Leaders Guide, and hand them out to your group members.

Ask each person to pray the Scripture or declare the Scripture in prayer. Model praying one of the Scriptures before you begin. Let them know that there is no wrong way of doing it. If you have more than 12 members in your group, please break into groups of 12 or smaller for this prayer exercise.

Session 2

- Preparation

Before your small group meeting, review the following about praising God:

PRAISING GOD

Why is praising God important? The reasons are countless:

First, God deserves to be praised and He is worthy to receive our praise:

- *"For great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; he is to be feared above all gods" (Psalm 96:4).*
- *"Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom" (Psalm 145:3).*
- *"I call to the LORD, who is worthy of praise, and I am saved from my enemies" (2 Samuel 22:4).*
- *"You are worthy, our LORD and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being" (Revelation 4:11).*

Second, praising God is useful and favorable for us. By praising God, we are reminded of the greatness of God! His power and presence in our lives is reinforced in our understanding.

"Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good; sing praise to his name, for that is pleasant" (Psalm 135:3).

Third, praise discharges strength in faith, which causes God to move on our behalf. *"From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise because of your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger" (Psalm 8:2).* Praising God also transforms the spiritual environment that we have. 2 Chronicles 5:13-14 clearly illustrates the alteration that happened when the Levites gave praise and thanks to the Lord and the temple was filled with a cloud signifying the glory of God. *"The trumpeters and singers joined in unison, as with one voice, to give praise and thanks to the LORD. Accompanied by trumpets, cymbals and other instruments, they raised their voices in praise to the LORD and sang: 'He is good; his love endures forever.' Then the temple of the LORD was filled with a cloud, and the priests could not perform their service because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled the temple of God."*

Fourth, God inhabits the atmosphere of praise. Psalm 22:3 says, "But thou art holy, O thou that inhabits the praises of Israel." If we want to see a clear manifestation of God's blessings and grace, all we need to do is to praise Him with all our heart, our mind, and our soul.

Praising God - Who and When?

Who is to praise God? *"Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. Praise the LORD"* (Psalm 150:6). *"I will extol the LORD at all times; his praise will always be on my lips"* (Psalm 34:1).

- *"Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you. I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands"* (Psalm 63:3-4).
- *"Praise the LORD, all you servants of the LORD who minister by night in the house of the LORD. Lift up your hands in the sanctuary and praise the LORD"* (Psalm 134:1-2).

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- Arrival, Group Icebreaker
 - Discussion and Sharing from *fresh encounters* study guide – Session 2
 - Remind group members of upcoming dates: McEachern Prayer Summit – Friday, February 25th 6:00pm to 8:00pm and Saturday February 26th from 9:00am to 3:00pm (breakfast served 7:30am - 8:30am, lunch served 12:00noon – 1:00pm).
 - Group Prayer Time

Discuss with the group why praising God is so important: God deserves to be praised and He is worthy to receive our praise.

Have 4 group members read the following scriptures aloud as declarations:

- *"For great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; he is to be feared above all gods"* (Psalm 96:4).
- *"Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom"* (Psalm 145:3).
- *"I call to the LORD, who is worthy of praise, and I am saved from my enemies"* (2 Samuel 22:4).
- *"You are worthy, our LORD and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being"* (Revelation 4:11).

Use the praise resource Appendix A "You Are My God" (in study guide). Ask group members to verbalize in prayer the names of God that are most meaningful to them. Praise Him for how you saw Him show Himself in your daily circumstances or events.

Session 3

- Arrival, Group Icebreaker
- Discussion and Sharing from *fresh encounters* study guide – Session 3
- Group Prayer Time

Ask the group members to find the Names of God sheet in Appendix F in the *fresh encounters* study guide. Go through the following prayer pattern and look at the examples before you begin the prayer time. Discuss how the prayer time will flow. As the leader, you will begin each section and give instruction and will close the prayer time at the end.

Prayer Pattern

See His Glory (Adoration)

Leader: Lord, we praise You. We Worship You for who you are. We praise You now as we call out Your names and Your attributes. (Invite the group members to call out names and attributes of God.)

See Yourself (Confession)

Leader: Lord, we consider our ways in the light of your holiness.

Invite the group to confession, either silently or aloud.

Leader: Lord, we receive Your forgiveness, grace, and mercy and thank You that the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin.

See His Hand (Thanksgiving)

Leader: Lord, we thank You for Your works. We come to You with grateful hearts.

(Invite the group members to express thanksgiving for specific things the Lord has done for them during the previous week.)

See God's Power and His Heart (Supplication)

(Suggestion: allow each person in the group to pray around one prayer point before moving on to the next one. It may be confusing to try to do them all at once.)

Leader: Lord, we need you. One way that I need you most this week is _____.

Thank you that you are _____. (Establish the name of God for that need.)

Example: One way I need you most this week is to help me not to worry. I thank you that you are the Prince of Peace.

One way that my family needs you most this week is _____. (Establish the name of God for that need.)

One way that my family needs you most this week is to encourage us. I thank you that you are the God of all hope.

One way that my church needs you is _____. (Establish the name of God for that need.)

One way that my church needs you is to feed our spiritual hunger. I thank you that you are the Bread of Life.

One way that my pastor needs you is _____. (Establish the name of God for that need.)

One way that my pastor needs you is to protect him from the attacks of the enemy. I thank you that you are the Defender.

Session 4

- Arrival, Group Icebreaker
- Discussion and Sharing from *fresh encounters* study guide – Session 4

Take a few minutes and ask your group members to respond and share how God was speaking to them through the video.

- Reminder group members about the McEachern Prayer Summit – Friday, February 25th 6:00pm to 8:00pm and Saturday February 26th from 9:00am to 3:00pm (breakfast served 7:30am - 8:30am, lunch served 12:00noon – 1:00pm).
- Group Prayer Time

Ask the group members to take out the “Alphabet of the Father Heart of God” from Appendix E in the *fresh encounters* study guide. Invite them to look over these verses and then declare them for each other in prayer. You may ask them to go around the circle a few times. For example: “Mary, your Father is your Abba, your Papa God, and you are His beloved child.” “John, your Father bears all your burdens because He cares.” You do not need to go in the order the verses are listed. There may be some verses that you each feel led to pray over each other by virtue of what has been shared in the group. Instruct them that you will close the prayer time when you sense that it is time to do so.

Session 5

- Arrival, Group Icebreaker
- Discussion and Sharing from *fresh encounters* study guide – Session 5
- Remind group members about the McEachern Prayer Summit – Friday, February 25th 6:00pm to 8:00pm and Saturday February 26th from 9:00am to 3:00pm (breakfast served 7:30am - 8:30am, lunch served 12:00noon – 1:00pm).
- Group Prayer Time

Instructions for the Group: God's faithful nature and His caring meet in the 23rd Psalm to portray our intimately personal Father, our Shepherd. God's character in His eight covenant names can be seen in this Psalm.

During this time of prayer, ask God to show you what He wants you to know about Himself through each name – about who He is, what He does, and what you have in Him. I will lead out by reading each verse of the psalm one at a time along with the covenant name of God.

Listen to what the Lord is speaking to you and respond in prayer.

For example:

Leader: Lord, you are Jehovah - Rohi: The Lord my Shepherd.

The Lord is my Shepherd.

Examples of Prayer Responses: Thank you, Father, that You know me by name and You are watching over me.

Lord, forgive me when I resist following You as my Shepherd.

Lord, I feel protected because You are always looking after me.

Leaders:

Ask group members to respond in prayer to each verse after you read it.

Read the verse and the name of God and allow the group members to respond. Move on to the next name and verse when you sense that it is time.

Leader: *"The Lord is my Shepherd"*

Lord, you are Jehovah-Rohi: The Lord my Shepherd.

Group Prayer Response

Leader: *"I shall not want."*

Lord, you are Jehovah-Jireh: The Lord my Provider.

Group Prayer Response

Leader: *"He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters."*

Lord, you are Jehovah-Shalom: The Lord my Peace.

Group Prayer Response

Leader: *"He restores my soul."*

Lord, you are Jehovah-Rapha: The Lord my Healer.

Group Prayer Response

Leader: *"He guides me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake."*

Lord, you are Jehovah-Tsidkenu: The Lord my Righteousness.

Lord, you are Jehovah-M'Kaddesh: The Lord my Sanctification.

Group Prayer Response

Leader: *"Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me. Your rod and your staff, they comfort me."*

Lord, you are Jehovah-Shammah: The God who is there.

Group Prayer Response

Leader: *"You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil. My cup overflows."*

Lord, you are Jehovah-Nissi: The Lord my Banner of Victory.

Group Prayer Response

Leader: *"Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." In Jesus' Name, Amen.*

Session 6

- Arrival, Group Icebreaker
- Discussion and Sharing from *fresh encounters* study guide – Session 6
- Encourage the small group members to prepare for the Prayer Summit with “Guide To Falling In Love With Jesus” located in the *fresh encounters* study guide (at the end of Session 6 & before the Appendix Section).
- Group Prayer Time

2 Waves of Prayer

1. “A tool to cultivate faith in your prayer time is a focus on thanksgiving. So many times in the Bible we find God’s people thanking Him for His mighty acts in the past as an incentive to trust him for His provision and direction in the future” (p. 142).

Psalm 52:9 says, “I will praise you forever for what you have done; in your name I will hope for your name is good. I will praise you in the presence of your saints.”

Spend some time in prayer, offering thanksgiving for the prayers that God has answered and the things He has done in your life over the past few weeks as you have been a part of this small group experience.

2. In your prayer time at home, you spent some time sitting before the Lord and asking Him to speak to you in your spirit. We want to continue that practice in our prayer time tonight. Instruct your group members to pray for the person on your right. I want you to take a few minutes and be still before the Lord. Ask Him what He wants you to pray for that person. Don’t

just automatically start thinking about what you “should” pray. For example: “Oh, they teach school. I will pray for them to have a great school year and be a blessing to the students.”

What God impresses upon you may not be what you are expecting. When God speaks, it will line up with His word.

In a few moments, I will ask you to pray out loud for the person on your right. Pray whatever you believe God is laying on your heart.

After the prayer time, ask any group members if they would like to share how the other person’s prayer impacted them.

Appendix B

Prayer Scriptures

Jer 1:12..... "I am ready to perform My Word." **power**

Jn 16:24..... "Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full." **joy**

Mt 21:22..... "...whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive."
answers/provision

Mark 11:24-25...."Whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins."
Power, forgiveness

Matt. 7:7-8...."Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks, the door will be opened." **Access, relationship, power, provision**

Jer 33:3..... "Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things..." **revelation**

Jn 14:14..... "If you ask anything in my name, I will do it." **God's action on your behalf/ power**

Jn 16:23..... "...whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you."

Power

Luke 11:13...."How much more will your father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" **the Holy Spirit**

Eph. 2:18... "Through Jesus we have access to the Father by one Spirit." **A way to be with the Father**

Eph. 6:18-19..."Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep praying for the saints. Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel." **Power to impact the lives of others, words from the Holy Spirit, ongoing relationship**

Jas 5:16..... "The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much." **God's movement – power**

Job 22:27..... "You will make your prayer to Him, He will hear you..." **the attention of God**

Heb. 4:16..."Let us approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." **Mercy, grace, help**

Heb. 10:19, 22.... "Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus- let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith..." **the way into His presence**

1Jn 5:14..... "Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us." **Power- walking in God's will**

1Jn 5:15..... "And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him." **Power, favor**

Jn 14:13..... "And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father

may be glorified in the Son." **Being in alignment with the will of God-
opportunity to glorify God**

Isa 55:11..... "So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it." **Power, participating in accomplishing the will of God**

Prov. 3:5-6..."Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him and he will direct your paths."
Direction, guidance

Jn 15:7..... "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you." **Deeper relationship, power**

Mt 18:18..... "Assuredly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." **Power/
advancement of the kingdom**

Mt 18:19..... "Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven."
Power, unity

Jn 15:16..... "You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you." **fruitfulness**

Jer 29:12..... "Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you." **Relationship/ attention of God**

Isa 65:24..... "It shall come to pass that before they call, I will answer, and while they are speaking I will hear." **Relationship/ Direction**

Ps 91:15..... "He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him." **Deliverance**

Ps 141:2..... "Let my prayer be set before You as incense, the lifting of my hands as the evening sacrifice." **Pleasing the Lord**

Rev. 5:8....."Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayer of the saints." **Worship, offering, pleasing the Lord**

Appendix C

"For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." Colossians 1:13-14

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9

"It is God who makes us stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come." 2 Corinthians 1:21-22

"May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ." Romans 15:5-6

“Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” John 14:27

“If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.”
John 7:37

“Yes, Lord, walking in the way of your laws, we wait for you; your name and renown are the desire of our hearts.” Isaiah 26:8

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will direct your paths.” Proverbs 3:5-6

“You have made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.” Psalm 16:11

“I love you, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge. He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. “ Psalm 18:1-2

“The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. Those who know your Name will trust in you, for you, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek you.” Psalm 9:9-10

“The word of the Lord is right and true; he is faithful in all he does. The plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.”
Psalm 33:4, 11