



An Experience of Revival

April 14 | Group Discussion Guide

Begin by praying, catching up on your week, and answering a question (10 minutes).

Like last week, begin your time together by having someone pray.

Spend a few moments talking about how last week's discussion/reflection impacted your previous week. Ask, "How has making space for more of God in your life gone? What's come of it? What's been hard?" Allow space for each person to share.

Read Mark 9:14-29 prayerfully (20 minutes).

Have each person take some time to sit quietly with Mark 9:14-29. Tell each person to, before reading, pray that the Holy Spirit would open their eyes and heart to what God wants to say to them through this passage. Then, have them reflect on the following questions.

- Now, read **Mark 9:14-29** once through. What observations do you have from this text? Who are the main characters? What happens? Where is this happening?
- Now, read this text again a second time noting what you think that the main theme of the passage is. What is God trying to teach his people?
- Lastly, read through the passage one last time. Pray to God any final takeaways you have from this third and final reading. What applications does this have for you personally?

Once the allotted time is up, ask people for their answers to the above three questions.

Discuss the sermon, the topic of prayer, and Mark 9 (30 minutes).

You may not get through all the questions. That's okay. Feel free to read these ahead of time and pick a couple that fit your group best!

- Have there ever been times in your life where you felt like no matter what you did, you could not overcome the habit or situation you were struggling with? Explain.
- In **Mark 9**, Jesus says that there are some things that can “come out only by prayer” (9:29). On a scale of 1-10, 1 being low and 10 being high, how much priority would you say you give to prayer when you’re going through a trial? Why did you choose that number?
- Travailing prayer was defined by David Thomas as “a kind of spiritual posture found among some who were the catalytic core, a spirit of urgency and audacity, an attitude of brokenness and desperation, a manner of prayer that could be daring and agonizing.” Have you ever engaged in prayer as described like this? When? For what? What was the result?
- **Read Galatians 4:19.** Is there anything that you’re either in right now or have been “as if in the pangs of childbirth” over? Have you ever felt that way about Christ being formed in yourself? Your family? Our church?
- In general, how are you making room for prayer in your life? To ask God for the things you need?
- Are there any places you’re relying on yourself instead of relying on God in prayer? Explain.
- What are things that are in need of travailing prayer in your life right now?

Pray travailing prayer (10 minutes).

Spend a few minutes as a group praying through your answers to the last question. As a reminder, travailing prayer was defined by David Thomas as “a kind of spiritual posture found among some who were the catalytic core, a spirit of urgency and audacity, an attitude of brokenness and desperation, a manner of prayer that could be daring and agonizing.”

Take a moment to recall people’s answers to that question. Then, as you feel led, spend time praying over those things for one another.

Finish with logistics and prayer requests (5 minutes).

1. **Inform your group** about our upcoming 24/7 Prayer initiative! You can find out more information at thecreek.org/revival.
2. **Finish your group** session by closing with prayer.