



Daniel 9-10 – Prayer and Promises

Small Group Questions

1. If we were to stop people in Meadowhall and ask them what prayer is, what answers do you think we might get?
2. As Christians, what would we want to add / take away from those answers? What are the features and types of *Christian* prayer?

Pray for God's help as you turn to look at His word, to understand and respond rightly to what you'll see. Read through Daniel 9:1-19 and then discuss these questions together.

3. This is one of the most extended prayers of confession in all the Bible. What features of this prayer stand out to you?
4. How does this compare with your own prayer life?
5. One of our church values is 'Prayerful'. What could you individually and we collectively do to ensure heartfelt confession of sin is a feature of our prayerfulness?
6. What do you find striking about God's responses to Daniel's prayer, through the angel Gabriel (9:20-27)?

Daniel was looking forward to the end of the exile, the removal of Israel's shame and their return into God's presence (symbolically, God's presence was in the Temple in Jerusalem). It was the promise of that (9:2-3) that prompted him to pray.

7. How do Christians today (a) currently enjoy and (b) look forward to a greater salvation (the end of exile, the removal of shame, our enjoyment of God's presence)?
8. How should this hope orient and shape our whole lives as Christians? (If you have time during your group meeting or afterwards, you might like to consider this question in light of reading Hebrews 10:19-25 and/or Revelation 22:17-21.)

Respond to God's word in prayer

Share any answers to prayer you've seen since you last met

Take some time to pray for each other