



The Chapel
May 11, 2025
Dave Gustavsen

Week 3: Advocate
Jn 16:23-24, Gal 4:5-6; 1 Jn 2:1-2



OPENER (5 mins)

Children often ask boldly and without hesitation when they need something. What do you think it means to approach God with that kind of childlike trust in prayer?



JOURNAL SHARING (15 mins)

John 16:23-24

Galatians 4:4-5

1 John 2:1-2

Hebrews 4:14-16



EXTENDED PRAYER (20-30 mins) Pray In Jesus' Name

A. Confidence (John 16:23-24)

Leader Prompt: Because of Jesus, we can come boldly. What do you want to ask the Father tonight?

Pause & invite everyone to pray prayers of asking in Jesus' name — with boldness and expectation.

B. Confession (1 John 2:1-2)

Leader Prompt: Jesus is our Advocate. Let's come humbly & honestly before Him.

Pause & allow everyone a moment for silent confession.

Then pray aloud, "Thank You, Jesus, for standing with me and covering me."

C. Childlikeness (Galatians 4:5-6)

Leader Prompt: Because of Jesus, we're sons and daughters. Let's speak to God as our loving Father. Encourage, "Father, I trust you with,"

Invite everyone to pray prayers of trust and surrender, in Jesus' Name.

CLOSING PRAYER: Invite one person to close the group prayer time.



DISCUSS (15 mins)

1. Pastor Dave noted that we naturally tend to approach and expect God to answer our prayers according to our desires because we "earned it."

- How does this mindset compare to approaching God as a loving, forgiving, life-giving Father?
- In what areas of your life are you hoping God will answer your prayers your way?
- How does it change your perspective to remember that, through Christ, you have free and open access to a perfect Father who knows and loves you completely? Take time to thank God for the gift of Jesus, who made that relationship possible.

2. Sometimes unconfessed sin can keep us from confidently approaching God in prayer. Even though we're fully forgiven through Christ, 1 John 1:5-10 reminds us that God still calls us to walk in the light and confess our sins.

- How have you grown in your understanding of what sin is?
- Is confession a regular part of your prayer life? Why or why not?
- What might change in your relationship with God if you made space each day to honestly confess and ask for His help?

Take a moment now to silently reflect and, if needed, confess anything that's come to mind. Remember—your advocate, Jesus, already paid the price. He stands with you, and your loving Father welcomes you with grace and help.



PRAYER → ACTION (5 min)

After praying, what is **one step of obedience** that God is calling you to take this week? It could be a change in your attitude, a specific action, or a way to love and serve others. Record this in your journal, asking God for the grace & power to follow through. Share with your group members also, to help keep you accountable.