

## **Now Praying: Praise**

**Romans 8:26, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**

**October 14, 2018**

### **WARM-UP QUESTIONS:**

1. Our fall sermon series is reflecting on the essence and expressions of prayer. In your own words, what is prayer?
2. Describe how and when you pray and what the experience is like for you. How has your “prayer life” changed over the years?
3. Technology and information have made huge strides in our lifetime. Is there still a need for prayer?
4. If we don’t actively pray, do you think God still meet our needs?

### **REFLECTION QUESTIONS:**

1. Read Romans 8:26. What does it mean for the Spirit to speak on our behalf in a time of lack of words?
2. How is prayer both a dialogue and a monologue with God at the same time?
3. Pastor Nate made the following statements: “Praise is awareness” and “Praise is acknowledgement” - what does he mean by this? How has this been true for you?
4. The apostle Paul states that “we do not know what to pray for.” What do you think he means? And is this accurate?

### **APPLICATION QUESTIONS:**

1. What tends to be the focus of your prayers? What do you praise God about? What are you thankful for? What do you find yourself praying for the most?
2. How comfortable are you with letting God see and hear your deepest and most secret thoughts? Does it make any difference that God already knows?
3. Pastor Nate says that “Sin causes disruption in our lives, but there are still moments of beauty that are signposts of God’s goodness and grace.” Take some time to identify some “signposts” in your life. Compose a prayer in response.