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*In this meeting, we encourage you shorten your discussion so that you can spend more time in prayer. Feel free to skip over questions if need be.*

*Opening Question*

1. Share a time where you experienced God answering prayer.

*Going Deeper*

Read Acts 2:42-47 and Mark 11:15-18 together:

1. What stirs in you as you read these passages?

1. Eugene Peterson suggests that North American churches today have more in common with the Temple described in Mark 11 than we want to admit.
   1. Where are the similarities?
   2. Why are western churches more marked by prayerlessness than churches in other cultures?
2. For most people, prayer is not natural. It is something we learn how to do over time. Who are the people who have taught you how to pray?
3. What has God taught you through prayer?
4. If someone were to come to you and say “*I’ve given up on prayer. I’ve asked God to heal my chronic illness for years, and my pain is only getting worse*.” How would respond to this person?
5. Reflect on the following quote together: *“you can tell how popular a church is by how many people come on a Sunday morning. You can tell how popular a pastor is by who comes on a Sunday night. You can tell how popular Jesus is by who comes to a prayer meeting.”*
6. What might it look like for Hope to become a house of prayer? What changes need to be made (personally and collectively)?

*Close in Prayer*