



EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Session 8: I Pray

Suggested Week of Use: April 23, 2023

Core Passage: John 17:13-26

News Story Summary

In Nashville, Tennessee, hundreds of volunteers recently stepped up to put together Easter baskets for the families from The Covenant School. On March 27, a shooting at the school resulted in the deaths of seven people, including the shooter. The murders of three school employees and three children left the community in shock and wrestling with grief. After such a heartbreaking event, even small tasks can seem insurmountable. One Covenant family reached out to a friend, Christy Wright, to help assemble an Easter basket for their children. Christy took that simple act a step farther, organizing a group of volunteers to put Easter baskets together for every family at the school. In moments like these, it's not unusual to see entire communities come together with one purpose. In this case, that single-minded purpose was making sure every Covenant School family had an Easter basket on Resurrection Sunday.

For more about this story, search “Covenant School Easter baskets.”

Focus Attention

To supplement **FOCUS ATTENTION**, share the story of the Easter baskets that were created and distributed for families at the Covenant School following a shooting there in March. Ask: *When have you been a part of a team that came together to help someone in need?* Allow volunteers to share their experiences. Remind the group that we see this type of unity and teamwork every time disaster strikes and creates a sense of crisis. Lead the group in a brief discussion on why working together for a common goal is such a powerful force for good in the world. Explain that this study explores what has become known as Jesus's high priestly prayer. Encourage the group to look for insights into how Jesus wants all believers to work together and to consider ways to make His desires a reality in our world.

Summarize and Challenge

To supplement **SUMMARIZE AND CHALLENGE**, ask: *When have you needed the help of your church family?* Remind the group that every believer, at some point, will need help from the body of Christ. Say: *The unity and love we share is part of what makes us unique from other clubs or groups. We have a common bond and purpose in Christ.* Challenge adults to find ways they can work to promote unity within the body and to work together to meet the needs of others, just as Jesus prayed. Close the session by praying that your group and your church would be unified and focused as they share God's love with others.