

**Theme**: Is anyone listening? God hears our prayer, and when we don't know how to put it all into words, the Scriptures give us prayers and praises to lift our requests to God. Especially in the Psalms we find a wide range of human emotions that link our hearts to the Lord. God listens and hears our prayer!

# **Getting Started:**

- 1. Share a "God-sighting" from this past summer. Where and how did you see God at work? It can be in a big way or a very little way.
- 2. Share who or what you have been praying about lately. Jot them down so you can pray for them at the closing prayer.

## In the Word: Psalm 66:16-20

- 3. How do the words in this Psalm relate to what you just discussed above in "Getting Started"?
- 4. Can you think of something that the Lord did for you that you "just had to tell someone" about?
- 5. What does it mean to "cherish sin in my heart"? and how does that hinder our prayers?

## Read Proverbs 4:10-19

- 6. How would you define "wisdom" and how do we get it?
- 7. How do we distinguish the "path of righteousness" from the "way of the wicked"?

#### Read Matthew 7:24-27

- 8. In this familiar passage, Jesus is bringing to a close a significant section of teaching. Find the beginning of this teaching section. How did Jesus open this teaching?
- 9. How do we make sure we have a solid foundation on which to build our lives?

#### Putting it all together:

- 10. What are the ways that you try to keep God's Word first and foremost in your life?
- 11. What are the storms in life that make the streams rise and winds blow against us?
- 12. How does God's Word guard and protect us?

**Prayer**: Thank God for the blessing that His Word is in our lives. Ask the Holy Spirit to help us read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest the Word of God on a regular basis. Pray for the requests mentioned in the "Getting Started."

**Next Week – Lost & Found:** Jesus describes himself as someone seeking a lost coin or a lost sheep. He is actively pursuing us! And when He finds us, He puts us on our shoulders and carries us home. And heaven throws a party!