

- *Was there anything surprising or unusual that you heard from God when you were using your cell phone to pray today?*
- *What was the most important prayer that came through today?*
- *How can we incorporate this attitude of prayer as we use our smartphones throughout the week?*
- *In your opinion, does technology draw us closer to God or farther away? Talk a little about your opinion.*

Notes

- Though this practice aims to use technology as a tool for fostering and encouraging spiritual practice, I still strongly encourage the practice of turning off or unplugging from electronic devices. All of the practices in *Faithful Families* can be enhanced by putting technology away while the practices are enjoyed. Certain practices are particularly suited for putting technology away.
- For more fantastic and creative prayer and spiritual practice, visit Lilly Lewin on the web at www.freerangeworship.com.
- For other ways to use smartphones to build community through a prayer service for youth groups or families who are far away from one another, visit www.traci-smith.com/resources.

Variations

- This practice is well suited to become an “add on” practice to other practices in *Faithful Families* or a part of a daily family or individual

Smartphone Prayers

routine. Try running through the Smartphone Prayer for five minutes before dinner, and then putting phones away for the remainder of dinner. For another variation, start the day with the prayer as a reminder to not let the phone dictate the day.

- Instead of using one phone per person, use one phone per family.
- Add different elements to the prayer that incorporate other often used apps on your smartphone.