

Community Group Discussion Questions

“Kingdom Prayer” Matthew 6:5-17 Oct 12, 2019

Getting Started

We must Engage and Experience God in Prayer not as a Routine, but a Rhythm!

Who taught you to pray?

What was it like?

Was it a familiar ritual of words, or was it free flowing and spontaneous?

How do you pray today?

Going Deeper:

The Expectation to Pray: *“And when you pray you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.” (Vs.5)*

Priority of Prayer: *“when you pray”*

Purpose in Prayer: *“not be like the hypocrites”*

After many months of watching Jesus do supernatural miracles and live a naturally supernatural life, the disciples finally asked Jesus, “Lord, teach us to pray.” They realized that what He did had everything to do with who He was and where He got His power from: prayer. If we want to live a life that is connected to God, we must become people of prayer too.

Who are the people you respect most when it comes to their prayer life?

What difference does praying seem to make to them?

How can you begin to pray more sincerely, powerfully, and faithfully?

The Exhortation in Prayer: *“But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. ⁸ Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.”* (Vs. 6-8)

Prayer is not a Performance: *“pray to your Father”*

Prayer is not a Prescription: *“empty phrases”*

We don't pray to impress anyone. We pray to impress our neediness upon Someone: God. We don't use empty phrases but real words that come from our heart. Honest, soul searching prayer is what our Father wants. He knows what we need even before we ask, but it is in the vulnerability of asking that we are reminded that we need Him and His power, His resources, and His perfect will.

When was the last time you prayed like this?

What did you pray about?

How did God comfort you and answer the prayer?

The Explanation of how to Pray: *“Pray then like this”* (Vs. 9-13)

Prayer is a Direction: Towards His Attributes

Prayer is a Declaration: Transformed by His Acceptance

On the next page, you will see the hexagon. Starting at the top point, and going clockwise, the main ideas are: Character: He is Father who cares; Kingdom: He has Kingship and power; Provision: He is our bread and has resources; Forgiveness: He restores relationships hurt by sin; Guidance: He is our Leader who removes temptations; and Protection: He is our Deliverer who keeps us from enemy attacks.



Take Away: Pray through the Lord's Prayer each day this week while focusing on each attribute of God while choosing to fast from one thing of importance to you, and when the craving is evident, declare to God His Acceptance.

PRAYER: