



The Lord's Prayer

SESSION 1: YOUR WILL - GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

GET STARTED

- Have you ever experienced miscommunication in directions (cooking, driving, tasks, etc...) that lead you off course? If so, share a story.
- Think about all the ways technology has impacted communication. How has communication changed from the time you were a kid until now?

TAKE IT IN

- What encouraged or challenged you from the sermon this week? Why?

TALK IT OVER

Read Matthew 6:5-8

- Jesus warns against praying in a way that seeks attention from others (v.5). What impact does the motive behind our prayers have on our relationship with God?
- Jesus encourages us to go into a private room to pray (v.6). Why would God value a quiet, private place for prayer, rather than a busy, public place? In what ways can our environment affect the quality of our prayer life? Where would be the best possible place for you to have regular, scheduled prayer?
- Jesus encourages us to not use empty phrases or repeat words mindlessly in prayer. Why do you think Jesus cautions against this? How can we ensure that our prayers are genuine and not just formulaic?
- Matthew 6:8 reveals an important truth: God knows what we need before we ask Him. How does this knowledge impact the way we approach prayer?

Read Matthew 6:9-10

- Jesus begins His teaching on prayer by declaring God's greatness in v. 9. Why do you think Jesus instructs us to start prayers here?



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- After declaring God's greatness, Jesus tells us to spend time aligning with God's will (v. 10). Why is it important to surrender your will to God in your prayers? How does beginning with praising God help you surrender your will to Him? Explain.
- While surrender is an easy concept to understand, it is much harder to live out. Why do we often struggle with praying, "Your will be done," within our lives (families, finances, work, etc.)?

Read Mark 12:28-34 and Micah 6:8

- With these verses in mind, what is God's will for our lives? How have you experienced these things in your own life?
- How do you think your week would be different if you took time each day to praise God and surrender your will to Him?

LIVE IT OUT

Based on what you have learned through Scripture and discussion, how should your daily prayers change? This week, choose a private place and regular time for prayer. Make a commitment to pray daily this week. Come back next week, and share what God has been teaching you through your time with Him.

Memorize: *"This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.'"* **Matthew 6:9-10**