

Discovering Life Together
Today's Talk: PRAYER
Luke 11:1-4, Matthew 6:9-13

Six Simple Phrases...

Two Big Ideas...

One Great Passion...

Questions for Community Groups and Individual Bible Study:

For Starters: Do you find it easy or difficult to talk to people? How about talking to God? When it comes to praying, what comes easy and what is difficult? Discuss.

The Basics: Read Luke 11:1-4 and Matthew 6:7-13. Why did the disciples ask Jesus to *teach* them to pray? Why is prayer integral but not necessarily natural to following Jesus? If you asked Jesus to teach you to pray, what specific areas of your prayer life would you ask Him to help you grown in?

Quick Fire Round:

1. Read Matthew 6:9-13. What six simple phrases form the foundation of the Lord's Prayer? Which phrases stand out to you and why?
2. Break the prayer into two big ideas. What is the focus and purpose of each section?
3. Read Matthew 6:9-10. Why should prayer begin with God's Name, God's Kingdom and God's Will? When we pray this way, what does it cause us to think and do?
4. Read Matthew 6:11-13. How are these phrases relevant to everyday life? Read Matthew 6:26, Philippians 4:19, Ephesians 3:14-20, Ephesians 6:10-13, and 1 John 1:8-9. Consider God's provision, forgiveness and protection. What areas of your life do you need God to speak into?
5. Discuss the following John Piper statement: *The one great passion and purpose of prayer is hallowing God's Name. His Kingdom comes for that, His will is done for that, humans are sustained for that, sins are forgiven for that and temptation is escaped for that.* Does this change the way you view or practice prayer? If so, how?
6. Read the following New Testament prayers: John 17:1-5, Philippians 1:9-11, Ephesians 1:16-21 and 3:14-19, Colossians 1:9-12. As you learn to pray by seeking God's Name, Kingdom and Will, what can you learn and apply?

Weekly challenge: Pray through the Lord's Prayer. Choose a specific phrase to focus on. Ask God to teach and guide you. Determine some actions steps will you take. Pray with and for someone else. Keep a prayer journal.