

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS



REVIEWING SUNDAY: Read **Matthew 6:1-9** Was there anything from this text you'd like to comment on, have a question about or just found interesting?

1. On Sunday Pastor Jim stated that the Lord's prayer begins with God and not us. If my prayer life begins with and is consumed with "my worries, problems and needs" Then those things orient my thinking towards worry instead of a loving Father God who will take care of me. Quickly, have you found this to ever be true in your life? Explain

2. Pastor Jim said that our greatest adversary to prayer is not trying to find the time...it is our image of God. Or simply said, what we think God is really like. Read **Luke 15:11-24**. This story Jesus tells gives us a great picture of what God as a Father is really like. Write down as many qualities of God the Father that you can find in the story.

3. Back to **Matthew 6:9**. Jesus calls God, "Father" which was highly unusual for them in that day. The religious leaders called Pharisees had painted God has a God of unbearable unattainable rules. Jesus erases the canvass and paints God as a loving Relational Father. Do you ever get caught up in that "I didn't keep all God's rules, therefore I cannot come to God in prayer or petition until I get things right/perfect?" If so, explain how that affects your prayer and Christian walk?

4. What do the following verses tell us about God:

I John 3:1 John 13:1 John 15:9

GOING DEEPER

1. Let's begin the deeper section with a bonus jeopardy question. These are just to make you think or dig a bit deeper and is optional.

Matthew 6:9 says, "Our Father who is in heaven hallowed by Your Name." In your opinion, why does Jesus add that God is in heaven to the blueprint on prayer? And to make this a true daily double and add some fuel to your thinking, Jesus said in **Luke 17:21** Jesus said, "The kingdom of God/heaven is in your midst."

2. Sunday Pastor Jim said that prayer is not only about changing our circumstances, it also changes us. The things we pray for...the way we speak and behave...the way we treat others...the way we handle our finances should be in a way the Glorifies God's Name. But Jesus takes this Glorify God's Name to a whole new level in **John 12:27-28**. Pastor Jim told us that Jesus was saying, "Father no matter what happens to me, good or bad, God magnify your Name through Me. Let me never bring shame to Your Name."

Please write out what kind of impact does Jesus' prayer have upon you?

TAKING IT HOME: What is the one thing you will put into practice from Sunday's teaching or tonight's lesson?

PRAYER REQUESTS: