

Small Group Bible Study / Discussion

Sermon Series: *Lord, teach us to pray*

Sermon Title: Let Jesus teach you how to pray
Passage: Luke 11:1-4; Matthew 6:5-15

Date: February 1, 2009
Message # 5

Think about it

- If you could ask Jesus to teach you to do something, what would it be?
- How have you learned about prayer?
- What do you tend to pray about most often?
- Why is it so hard to forgive those who hurt us?

Examine it

Luke 11:1-4

- What did the disciples ask Jesus to do? (11:1)
- How did Jesus respond? (11:2-4)
- What different requests does Jesus include in the prayer he uses? (11:2-4)

Matthew 6:5-15

- What does Jesus tell people not to do? (6:5) Why does He say that?
- What does Jesus say to do before one prays? (6:6) Why?
- What else does Jesus warn people not to do when they pray? (6:7-8)
- What does Jesus say is how one should pray? (6:9-13)
- What does Jesus warn about forgiveness? (6:14-15)

Discuss it

- Why is it a temptation to want to impress others with our spiritual lives? What is the danger in that?
- What do you notice about the various requests that Jesus gives in this model prayer?
- What does Jesus tell us to pray concerning God? ...concerning ourselves?
- Which of these requests do you regularly use, which do you not regularly use?
- How often do you think Jesus expected this type of prayer to be used by someone? Why do you think that?
- What is the only aspect of this prayer that Jesus comments on? Why do you think He did that?
- How can we pray this prayer without it becoming "meaningless repetition"?
- Which aspect of Jesus' model for prayer challenges you most? Why?

Live it out

- How can Jesus' model of prayer help you in your prayer life?
- How can you keep your prayer life vibrant, and not let it get in a rut?
- Do you have a place that you can go be alone for prayer? If not, will you find one?
- Do you have a regular time that you can pray the things Jesus' prayer models?
- Who can help you be more consistent in a healthy prayer life?

Pray about it

What does this study prompt you to pray about?

...something to praise God for? ...thank God for? ...confess? ...ask for?

Additional passage for meditation or memory: Philippians 4:1-9; Luke 18:9-14; Proverbs 30:7-9

Next week's passage: John 14:21-15:11; 1 John 3:21-24