



Teach Us to Pray, Part Deux

Remind them of the 45 Days of Faithfulness and ask if there are any stories they would want to share with the group?

Ask, What kind of things do you ask people to pray for?

Ask, What do you most get asked to pray for?

Make this statement - We pray to know and we pray to the One Who knows.

Read Luke 11:1-13

11 Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."² And he said to them, "When you pray, say: 'Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come.'³ Give us each day our daily bread,⁴ and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation."⁵ And he said to them, "Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves,⁶ for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him';⁷ and he will answer from within, 'Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything'?⁸ I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs.⁹ And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.¹¹ What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent;¹² or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion?¹³ If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Two instructions to begin - v.2 (focus on the eternal)

1. May Your name be hallowed - revered, holy, honored (to remind us Who we are praying to)
2. May Your plan be accomplished
3. Give me something to eat today. v. 3 (focus on the physical/temporal)
4. Give me forgiveness v. 4
5. Give me self-control v. 4 (don't lead me into temptation)

There are two overarching desires in this prayer - Let these things be true in the world and in my heart.

We pray to know and Jesus wants us to know:

1. That God is holy. (How do you express to God and others that you know God is holy? What are some ways you can express to God His holiness?) Let's practice that now.

2. That God is working. (Where do you see God working? How is He working in ways that might be different than we want Him to work? How might we see God at work more clearly in our everyday lives?)
3. That God is providing. (How is God providing for you today? Do you trust that He will provide what you need in the right time?) Many times we trust the provisions rather than the provider.
4. That God is forgiving. (How are you experiencing God's forgiveness today? How are you extending His forgiveness to others?)
5. That God is empowering. He empowers us through His Spirit to overcome temptation. (What do you need to relinquish to God to keep you from sin?)

How do you become the least of yourself and become more like Christ?

Remind your group that Celia Schoen, one of our church members, is still raising money for her 2-year mission. Take time praying for her and for her to reach her monetary goals to be able to go on mission.

Encourage your group to pray for one another this week.