

SIMPLE TALK

A Series on The Lords Prayer



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Week 2

Guiding Question

What is the Lord's Prayer?

Series Review

We are in a multi week study of the Lord's Prayer we are calling Simple Talk

Say: *There is often a lot of confusion and fear around prayer and two weeks ago we looked at how Jesus deconstructed some of the bad views we might have of prayer and in turn give us a simple prayer we call the Lord's Prayer.*

Say: *We asked the questions, why do we pray? and who do we pray to?*

Say: *We answered the questions by saying prayer is simply talking with God and we simply talk with God because he is the king of our lives and he is a good Father.*

Story/Questions

Say: *So now we know why we ought to pray and who it is we are praying to. The next question you might be wondering is what should I pray or talk to God about.*

Question: *What are some things you think we should be talking to God about? (allow students to give some answers, maybe write them on the board.)*

Question: *maybe a better question... are there any things you feel you can't talk to God about? (Don't force answers, can be question you just throw out there.)*

Bring the Truth to them

Say: *We are going to walk through the rest of the Lord's Prayer together and see a few of the things Jesus teaches us to pray.*

Read: Matthew 6:9-13

“Pray then like this: ‘Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.’”

— Read: Matthew 6:10

“Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.”

Ask: *Does anyone in here not like getting their way?*

Say: *We learn this from a young age, right? We are kinda selfish from the womb. And as we grow up it doesn't change.*

Say: *As middle and high schoolers you have options about almost everything and you think you are right. And probably a lot of you are right... about very little. And I am just as bad.*

Say: *When it comes to following God we may at times think we know better than God or we get so caught up in our lives that we fail to recognize what God says is right.*

Story/Example: *The Right of Way.*

Say: *Who in here can drive... legally?*

Ask: *What is the right of way in driving?*

Say: *The right of way is a simple road rule on who has the right to lead. If two cars come to an intersection at the same moment, who gets the right to go their way first.*

Say: *When Jesus tells us to pray, God your kingdom come, your will be done. He is teaching us that we should be talking to him about his will in our lives. That we should be yielding our way first to His way. As we go through our day we should be talking to God about the moments in our life, that he would help us to live how Jesus would.*

Example: *Should I make fun of this person to fit in? Should I be looking at these things on my phone? Should I be hanging around these people?*

Say: *God wants to talk to us about what is going on in our days and show us his better way.*



— Read: Matthew 6:11

“Give us this day our daily bread.”

Say: *You might remember the story of the Israelites in the desert and how they complained when there was no food. Moses prayed to God and God told them he would provide bread daily for them. But he gave clear instructions that they were only to collect what they needed for that day and that he would again provide more the following day. Just what they needed for each day.*

Say: *Jesus is teaching us here to talk to God about our needs.*

Say: *We all have needs. And then we all have wants.*

Say: *Needs can easily slip into wants... I need food to survive, I want to eat ice cream for every meal. I need friendships and love, I want to be popular.*

Truth Statement: *God wants to talk to us about our needs and he wants us to ask him for our needs.*

— Read: Matthew 6:12

“and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.”

Say: *Jesus is giving us an ask and a teaching moment. We are to ask God for forgiveness and teaching us to forgive others.*

Say: *We all have sin in our life. We all do wrong things and mess up.*

Say: *God wants to talk to us about our sin... but not so he can yell at us.*

Truth Statement: *God wants to talk to us about our sin so he can forgive us.*

Say: *Forgiveness breeds healing and God wants to heal your life and when we ask for His forgiveness we are welcoming him to heal.*

Truth Statement: *Jesus is also teaching us that forgiving others is just as healing*

Truth Statement: *Forgiving others keeps us from becoming bitter and sinning ourselves.*

Say: *This should be part of our talk time with God, talking with God about the hurts we've experienced from others.*

— Read: Matthew 6:13

“And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.”

Say: *Lastly, Jesus teaches us that we should talk to God about temptation.*

Truth Statement: *We can ask God to protect us. To keep us from sinning. To help us make wise choices. To lead us to the life he wants for us.*

Say: *If we are all honest, we all need more of this in our lives. We all make a lot of stupid mistakes in our day.*

Truth Statement: *God wants us to be dependent on him to walk wisely. He knows we can't do it on our own, so he offers help.*

Say: *Yes, we will still make mistakes. But the more we spend time talking with God about our lives and asking for his help the more aware we will be of how to please him with our actions.*

Apply it to Them

Say: *There are so many things we could pray for but Jesus offers us this simple prayer to help guide us. You may find it hard to know what to talk with God about and the Lord's Prayer is a great guide for your conversation.*

Say: *So next time you are stuck in how to pray start with this -- Recognize God, tell him who you believe he is and the position he holds in your life. Tell him you need him in your day, that he knows best and that you don't. Talk to him about the needs you are experiencing and ask him to provide for those needs. talk to him about your sin and ask him to forgive you. Talk to him about the hurts you have and ask him to help you forgive others. Lastly talk to him about your desire to follow him today and ask him to give you courage and strength to follow him, protecting you from stupid sins.*

→ **Challenge:** **This week pray through this the Lord's prayer daily, remembering what we talked about in this series.**

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Small Group Guide — Week 2

→ **The Goal /** To help students explore think through how they talk with God.

→ **Think About This /** When you first learned to ride a bike you didn't just one day walk outside, pick up the bike and off you were on your way to the 7-Eleven for a slurpee. No, someone had to show you and then it was rough there for a little. Prayer and other practices are learned, helping students to think through the things God wants to talk to them about is part of the showing process.

→ **The Point /** Prayer is simply a conversation with God about life.

1. Are there things you talk to God about? What are some of them?
2. Are there things you feel like you can't talk to God about?
3. How do you feel about allowing God to have his way in your life?
4. Are there any areas in your life you particularly have a hard time giving to God? Do you struggle to pray?
Why?
5. Have you ever asked God for something and seen him provide for you? Share the story.
6. How well can you tell the difference between needs and wants?
7. Do you find it hard to talk to God about your sin? Why?
8. Do you have a hard time forgiving others? Why?
9. What are some temptations that you often face?
10. How can you talk to God about those temptations and seek his help?

→ **The Challenge /** This week pray through this the Lord's prayer daily, remembering what we talked about in this series.