



Lord's Prayer - Adoration

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GROUP ICE BREAKER

What skill or talent would you most like to learn?

REVIEW LAST WEEK'S NEXT STEPS

What, if any, next step did you commit to last week, how did it go?

- I will use resurrection power to turn fear into faith in a particular area of my life.
- I will do the research to resolve my doubts about the Christian faith.
- I will follow Jesus and honor him in everything I do.
- I will go out and change my little part of the world.

MESSAGE SUMMARY

In the middle of the greatest sermon ever delivered, Jesus gives us the greatest prayer ever prayed. For the next several weeks we're going to learn from the Master when it comes to prayer. This week we addressed three problems; who, where, and what.

First, *Who do we pray to?* Jesus begins with the words "Our Father." When you use a name, you make a statement about the nature of the relationship you have with another person. When you say "Our Father," God's heart says: "This is my son. This is my daughter." The apostle Paul understood it this way when he says in Ephesians 2:18, "For through him (Jesus) we have access to the Father."

Next is *Where is God?* "Our Father in heaven." We tend to think of heaven as someplace way out there in outer space, but when we pray this we're saying, "Our Father who is all around me, closer than the air I breathe, who is right here, right now."

Third, *What should we pray for?* The very first request included is, "Hallowed be your name." In other words, "May the indescribable goodness of your person become so clear that you are regarded with affection and love." One of the great mysteries of God is he has allowed the holiness of his name on this earth to be bound up with the character and conduct of his people, you and me. We are a reflection of the character of God in the eyes of a watching world.

This is just the beginning of the Lord's prayer. The *who*, our Father that we dearly love and who constantly delights in us. The *where*, he's all around me, closer than the air I breathe. The *what*, that this whole earth would come to treasure God and honor God starting with me.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How would you describe your prayer life?
2. Read Matthew 6:5-6. What do we learn about attitudes of prayer from the comparison Jesus gives?
3. Read Ephesians 2:17-19. Why is our understanding of God as Father so important? How might this reminder to approach God as Father transform how you pray?
4. Share a time that you felt close to God in prayer. How did it impact you?
5. Why do you think Jesus made the first what of prayer about honoring God? How should this direct your prayers?
6. Of the three questions Jesus answered about prayer (who, what, and where), which one will you focus on this week and why?

NEXT STEPS FOR THIS WEEK (COMMIT TO GROW)

Use these as a guide to take your next step and commit to what you learned this week:

- I will commit to learning from Jesus, the master of prayer.
- I will make this request of Jesus starting today, "Lord, teach me to pray."
- I will begin using the Lord's Prayer as a framework for my prayer time.
- I will give God my worship and adoration in prayer this week.
- I will invite Jesus to go with me as I'm doing what I love this week.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

- Matthew 6:5-9
- Ephesians 2:18

SUPPLEMENTAL RESOURCES

- [A Deeper Look At the Sermon on the Mount: Living Out the Way of Jesus](#), John Stott

PRAYER REQUESTS

Take time to share how you can be praying for each other over the next week:

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