



DIGGING DEEPER

Small Group Discussion Guide: Matthew 6:9

DIGGING DEEPER GUIDE FOR LORD'S PRAYER SERIES

During this 7-week series on the Lord's Prayer, we will unpack how Jesus teaches his disciples to pray one phrase at a time. **Before you begin your discussion, take a moment to pray together.** Invite the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to what He wants to show you. Ask Him to guide your conversation, help you listen well to one another, and reveal how He is inviting you to grow.

READ THE PASSAGE TOGETHER: Matthew 6:9

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Don't feel pressured to get through every question! Follow as the Spirit leads and spend your time on the questions that spark meaningful conversation.

1. **Read Matthew 6:9a.** To call God "Father" has never been a universal human right — Scripture reserves it for his adopted children, those who have received Christ and been born of His Spirit (John 1:12). What difference does it make to you that you were adopted into this relationship with God, rather than simply born into it?
2. **Read Matthew 6:9a again.** Jesus doesn't teach us to pray "My Father," but "Our Father." What might change in your prayer life — and in how you think about the people in this group — if you took seriously that you're praying as part of a family, not as an individual?
3. **Read Matthew 6:9b.** "Our Father" points to God's nearness; "in heaven" points to His greatness. Which of these truths do you tend to lose sight of — that God is intimately your Father, or that God is the transcendent King over everything — and what happens in your prayers when you do?
4. **Read Matthew 6:9c.** Before this prayer asks God for anything we need, it asks that His name be honored above everything else — it's the request that shapes and comes before every other request in the prayer. What would it look like this week to let God's glory come first in your prayers, ahead of your own needs and plans?
5. To "hallow" God's name means to treat Him as holy — worthy of our full attention and reverence, not a source of casual, half-hearted requests. Where in your life right now are you most tempted to treat God as small, safe, or easily managed rather than holy? What would change if you approached that area with fresh reverence this week?

SHARE & PRAYER

As we anchor ourselves in the Lord's Prayer for this series, we want to grow in our awareness of the ways God's Kingdom is breaking in! We invite you to cultivate the practice of paying attention as you go about your week, pausing to reflect, noticing where you see God at work, and sharing what you've experienced. As we learn to notice and name what God is doing, we become more aware of His presence and more attentive to the ways He is inviting us to participate in what He is doing. **Take on the weekly challenge to pay attention and come prepared to share with your group!**

- **SHARE:** Where have you seen God at work this week? Share a story, moment, conversation, answered prayer, unexpected provision, opportunity, or anything else that made you aware of God. (This could be in your own life, someone else's life, our church, or the world around you).
- **RESPOND:** What might God be inviting you to do, see, trust, change or participate in this week?
- **PRAY:** Share prayer requests and pray together. Incorporate this week's focus from the Lord's Prayer and ask: What does this part of the prayer invite us to ask God?





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MORE WAYS TO ENGAGE

Fair Oaks Church Sermon Podcast (Apple Pod & Spotify)

- Listen to Sunday messages posted weekly
- Listen to Cutting Room Floor episodes that further unpack sermons

UPCOMING EVENTS [Learn more at fairoaks.church/events](https://fairoaks.church/events)

- **2027 Mission Trip Applications Open** | Due by 11/30 | Submit online at fairoaks.church/missions
- **9/23: All-Church Worship Night** | 6:30–7:30p | Wells Chapel | Draw near to God through a gathered night of worship through music, Scripture, and prayer! Families are welcome (Programs for Kids available for 1st–5th grade)
- **9/25–9/27: Men's Retreat** | Camp Alta | Register at fairoaks.church/events
- **10/9: Food Distribution at FO/OV Food Bank** | 9a–12:30p | Help pack and distribute food | Sign up to help at fairoaks.church/missions
- **10/9: Sisterhood Women's Gathering** | 6:30–8p | FLC Conference Rooms | Speaker: Jessica Benton, teaching on redemption and transformation | RSVP at fairoaks.church/events
- **10/11: Food Drive** | 9a–12p | Worship Center Lobby | Help supply our local food banks and support our neighbors in need.
- **10/18: Partnership Track** | 12–4p | Explore church membership & baptism | Details at fairoaks.church/events
- **10/23: Ditch the Parents** | Ages 5 years–5th Grade | 5–9p | Register at fairoaks.church/kids (Registration closes 10/21)

STAY INFORMED

Check The Weekly fairoaks.church/theweekly - All church news in one spot!

