



DIGGING DEEPER

Small Group Discussion Guide: Matthew 6:12

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 6:12

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 6:12.** Jesus calls our sins "debts," something we owe God but can't pay back on our own. Why do you think He teaches us to ask for forgiveness every day, just like we ask for our daily bread?
2. **Read Luke 15:11–31.** N.T. Wright calls this the story of "the Running Father." When you've messed up, do you usually picture God running toward you or keeping His distance? Why?
3. **Read Luke 4:16–20.** The word "forgive" means "to release" or "to let go." What does it mean to you that God doesn't just put up with you, but truly sets you free?
4. **Read Matthew 18:21–35.** The servant was forgiven a huge debt but refused to forgive a small one. Why do you think it is often easier to receive forgiveness than to give it? How are receiving and giving forgiveness connected?
5. **Read Ephesians 4:29–32.** Forgiving someone doesn't mean pretending what they did was okay. It means choosing not to make them pay. Is there someone you need to forgive? What is one small step you could take 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
- **10/14: Hope Gathering Widows Group** | 5-7pm | Potluck dinner and fellowship | Contact Twila for more information (916) 616-4707 or tbuffalo4@hotmail.com.
- **10/17: Men's Breakfast** | 8-10a | Family Life Center, AMC | Experience fellowship, food, community and time together! | RSVP at fairoaks.church/events
- **10/18: Partnership Track** | 12-4p | Explore church membership & baptism | Details at fairoaks.church/events
- **10/23: Ditch the Parents** | ages 5 through 5th grade | 5-9p | Kids & Youth Center | Games, crafts, food & a movie | No costumes please | Cost: \$15/child | Register at fairoaks.church/events (closes 10/21)
- **10/25: Miqlat Documentary Screening & Lunch** | 12p | Family Life Center | This documentary will highlight the origin, mission, and ministry of Miqlat. More info at fairoaks.church/events
- **11/1: Congregational Meeting** | 11:45a | Worship Center | For members to vote on church officers (elders and deacons) who will begin serving in 2027. More info at fairoaks.church/nominations.
- **11/7: Craft Fair** | 9a-2p | Family Life Center | Come shop for handmade crafts and seasonal items for the holidays | All proceeds will benefit missions and outreach projects through Fair Oaks Church
- **11/5: WFO Women's Brunch** | 9:30a-11:30a | Family Life Center (AMC Room) | Speaker: Laurel Harper from Operation Christmas Child (Samaritan's Purse)
- **11/8: Thanksgiving Food Drive** | 9a-12p | Worship Center Lobby | We are partnering with the Sayonara Center in Citrus Heights and Northridge Elementary School to provide local families with all ingredients for a Thanksgiving meal | List of needed items at fairoaks.church/events
- **11/8: Family Devotions Class** | 12-2p | Kids Assembly Room | Engaging the Bible and prayer with your children! | Recommended for 3-8th grade and their parents | Lunch provided | Childcare provided for children under 3rd grade | Details at fairoaks.church/events
- **11/8: Winds of Faith Concert** | 4-6p | Worship Center | Winds of Faith is a non-profit community concert band with over 30 members | Free (a freewill offering will be taken)

STAY INFORMED

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

