

Sermon: The Lord's Prayer

Primary Text: Matthew 6:5-15

Discussion guide:

- Tell of a good or bad or comical experience with customer service.
 - Do we often see prayer in the same way we see customer service?
- What do you think of when you hear the word “prayer”?
- Read Matthew 6:5-6,
 - What is Jesus saying about prayer and performance for others?
 - Why is it so easy to see prayer as a performance?
- Read Matthew 6:7-8,
 - What is Jesus saying about prayer and performance for God?
 - What is Jesus’ solution?
- Read Matthew 6:9,
 - Why is it significant to call God “Our Father”? (see John 3:16, Romans 8:15)
 - Why is it significant to say, “in Heaven”?
 - What does it mean that God is transcendent?
 - What does the word “hallowed” mean?
 - What are you saying when you say “hallowed be your name”?
- Read Matthew 6:10,
 - What does this tell us about the purpose of prayer?
 - Why do we often think prayer “doesn’t work”?
 - Why should we desire God’s will to be done over our own?
 - How does this relate to Jesus’ prayer in Gethsemane? (see Matthew 26:36-46)
- Read Matthew 6:11,
 - What sort of provision should we ask for? (see Luke 12:22-34; Matthew 4:4; John 4:34)
- Read Matthew 6:12, 14-15,
 - How does our not forgiving others cancel out God’s forgiveness of us?
 - When we refuse to forgive others what are we saying about God’s forgiveness of us?
- Read Matthew 6:13,
 - What are supposed to pray about here?