

When You Pray

Matthew 6:5–8 · Cornerstone Today · CT071

EPISODE SUMMARY

Jesus applies the Matthew 6 pattern to prayer. He warns against two wrong turns — praying to be seen by people, and babbling many words as if prayer were a technique — and invites us instead into the shut room, to talk plainly with the Father who is already there and already knows what we need.

KEY THEMES

Prayer's true audience • The shut door • Relationship, not performance • Words are not a mechanism • The Father who already knows

KEY SCRIPTURE

Matthew 6:5–8 (CSB) — primary text. These verses set up the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9–13) that follows.

TAKEAWAY TRUTH

Prayer was never about getting God up to speed. It is a child coming to a Father who already knows, already cares, and wants you there anyway.

APPLICATION FOR TODAY

Where is your shut door — the actual place and time you can step away from every audience and talk to your Father plainly? You don't need impressive words or a crowd. Just show up; he is already in the room.

SERIES FOCUS

Matthew 6 — The Hidden Life (Week 1 of the block). Up next: “Our Father, Your Kingdom” (Matthew 6:9–10), the God-ward half of the Lord's Prayer.