



Week 9- “Jesus’ Model Of Spirituality”

In this series we are diving into one of the most incredible talks Jesus ever gave: “The Sermon on the Mount”. When Jesus arrived He knew that our attempts at lasting change, and growth doesn’t lead to the life we all strive for and He came to bring a brand new way of living. In this week’s message, we discover what Jesus has to say about Prayer. In the message we see that Jesus acknowledges that sometimes prayer just does not work and He shows us a brand new way to pray that truly connects us to God.

1. What has been your understanding of the purpose of prayer?
2. How would you describe your experience with prayer?

Read Matthew 6:5-13

Jesus acknowledges that there are two common ways people pray:

- **Traditional: to be seen by others, to fit into social situations and traditions.**
- **Modern/technique: to get something from God that we want or need.**

He acknowledges that both of these ways do not allow us to truly connect with God and often leaves us disappointed. Jesus shows us that prayer is there so we can experience the friendship of God, the Lordship of God, out of a realization of our Sonship to God.

3. How does Jesus’ model of prayer affirm or challenge your understanding of prayer?
4. How can you use the way in which you pray to evaluate who you believe God to be?
5. What do you think it practically looks like to sit with God and simply enjoy Him, notice Him, and just be friends before anything else?

6. Why do you think people tend to go to God with a list of needs, and problems to fix and skip His friendship altogether?
7. Do you ever find yourself giving God suggestions on how to meet your needs or fix the problems in your life? How do you feel when it does not work?
8. What do you think it practically looks like to trust that He is God and that you are not?
9. In what ways do you think surrendering to Him would help you find the peace you are looking for?

Christianity teaches that when you trust what Jesus has done on the cross that you are given Sonship. It doesn't matter if you are male, female, rich or poor, you are a son or daughter of God, His Heir.

10. How can this truth allow you to trust God as a loving Father, Friend, and Lord?
11. In what ways do you plan to use Jesus' model of prayer in your life?
12. In what ways can this group help you gain a deeper understanding of the Gospel so that you can connect with God in a more intimate way?

When we go into a secret place and discover God as Father, Friend, and Lord we will discover more of who he is and who we are in Him. He is our friend, He is Lord, and in Him we are His sons and daughters and are invited to know His heart, and enjoy His friendship.