The Lord's Prayer Matthew 6.9-13

"Mercy is the manifestation of God's presence."

Lead us not into temptation- "Let us not be led into temptation." So What is true evil? True evil is all that moves us away from the will of God.

Luke 4.1-13

Temptation #1 "I am what I do" (performance).

- Jesus had done nothing miraculous for 30 years.
- Nobody believed in him, no one followed him, He had made no contribution to the world.
- He was tired & hungry.
- Our culture asks us the same question "What have you achieved?"
- Are you successful? What have you done? Who looks up to you?

Temptation #2 "I am what I have" (possessions).

- You are nobody if you don't have great stuff.
- This plays on our fear and our issue of security.
- Our culture measures our worth on what we own, how we dress, what we drive.
- Our culture says people with little are insignificant. This is evil and not the Gospel.
- We fall into the trap of comparisons, feeling worthless as we look at our stuff and others.
- We forget the love and mercy of God, and the inexhaustible possession of Jesus and him possessing us.

Temptation #3 "I am what others think" (popularity).

- Jesus at this point was invisible. He had no fame, had done nothing and this would thrust him into popularity.
- Most of us place a high premium on what others think of us. We do so much to alter and control the thoughts of others. We want to be loved so we act this way.... we want to look great so we do this...and we become slaves to our perceived notion of what people are thinking. This is evil.
- We dress, act, go to schools, pick up hobbies, even choose our careers based on what other think, to please others, to get others to like us, and we might be forfeiting what God has for us. This is evil.

Remember these truths

- 1. Galatians 2:20~ " I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."
- John 15:15~ "I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you."
- 3. **Ephesians 2:10**~ "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

1. Read or say the Lord's Prayer - Matthew 6.9-13

2. What do you think of Pastor's explanation of "lead us not into temptation?"Lead us not into temptation- This simply means that we are praying "Let us not be led into temptation."

3. How do we falsely live out the theology of the devil, that he is god and equal in power to Jesus?

4. Do you tend to view God as a judge or a merciful Father? Why?

5. Pastor taught that **True evil is all that moves us away from the will of God. Think about what moves us away from God. What are those things? Are they good or evil?**

6. Why is it a great life to be in God's will in every way?

7. The temptation of Christ in Luke 4.1-13, were described and taught that these are ways to move us away from God's will. Have you ever heard this before? Where? What did you feel about these?

8. Talk about these three temptations and how they have impacted your life?

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"and behold, a voice out of the heavens said, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased."" (Matthew 3:17, NASB95)

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