

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE FOLLOWING JESUS IN PRAYER

TALK IT OVER

Key Scripture

"he regards the prayer of the destitute and does not despise their prayer." Psalm 102:17

"The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth." Psalm 105:18 (ESV)

⁵ *"And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ⁶ But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ⁷ "And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. ⁸ Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him."* Matthew 6:5-8 (ESV)

¹⁸ *praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints..."* Ephesians 6:18 (ESV)

¹⁷ *pray without ceasing..."* 1 Thessalonians 5:17 (ESV)

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Start Talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- Share a high and a low.
- Who was the first person to teach you how to pray?

Head: Start Thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Read Luke 11:1-13. How do we address God in verse 2? How does he address us in verses 5-6? What does this tell us about our relationship with God?

Heart: Start Sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- Use a question from N.T. Wright's "Luke: For Everyone" (pg. 72-73).
- Why do we pray if God knows what we'll pray for already?
- If the Lord's Prayer was all the info we had to go off of, what could we discern about God's will for us?
- Martin Luther believed that in praying for daily bread, we were praying for everyone involved in the process of getting our food to our table. Who would that include?
- How does Luke 11:5-13 help flesh out the prayer in 11:1-4?

Hands: Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- When is your daily prayer time? If you can't answer this question, pick a time and try it out for one week.
- What kinds of things do you pray for? Do you pray for all of the facets in the Lord's Prayer? ACTS acronym for prayer = (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication).
- Who have you asked to pray for you that you might grow in holiness, help advance God's kingdom, have healthy relationships, and trust in God's provision?

Start Praying. Be bold and pray with power.

- Pray the Lord's Prayer, slowly focusing on each petition. Pray it again using the God's Word (GW) Bible translation.

Trios: Split into same-gender groups of three for 15 minutes:

1. What was a memorable passage from your Life Journal (or other Bible reading plan) reading this past week?
2. What's something you'd like someone else to check in with you about this week?
3. What good can we do around here (are there any community needs God is calling us to meet)?
4. Pray for one another.