

Life According to Jesus - July 4, 2021 **Matthew 6:9-15**

Conversation Starter/Questions (10 minutes)

What is your earliest memory of the Lord's Prayer? Has this prayer ever been meaningless to you in some way or to the contrary, very meaningful to you at some time?

Sermon Based Questions (15-20 minutes)

Read the Lord's Prayer Matt 6:9-13

How does a study of this prayer change how you pray on a daily basis?

Here is a reminder of the breakdown of this prayer into areas of prayer:

Address - Admiration - Submission - Provision - Protection

In relation to praying within these 5 areas, which is harder or easier for you to pray for with integrity and why? For example, praying God's will verses your own or forgiving others, which is more difficult?

vs. 11 How does the concept of praying for daily bread impact your prayer life? Discuss how it reminds us to depend on God and not think of ourselves as self-sufficient.

(Consider that some experts find that the average American is less than 3 paychecks away from financial struggle or even losing their home/bankruptcy.)

vs. 10 How should your everyday role in bringing the kingdom of God into a greater reality impact your life? What would need to change or improve?

Vs 14-15 How do the conditions regarding forgiveness in these verses impact you? How does this amplify the vertical and horizontal dimensions of forgiveness? Why do you think this is so important to Jesus? Can you share a story of forgiveness or where you need to forgive someone? (this is discussed in the Podcast)

Digging Deeper (20-25 minutes)

Read John 17:9-26. What prayer emphasis does this prayer of Jesus reinforce in the Lord's prayer found in Matthew 6?

How does the use of only plural pronouns found within the prayer strike you about the importance of community verses American's strong independence?

Challenge and Prayer (10-15 minutes)

As you pray for one another, practice using the model given in the Lord's Prayer.