

Before jumping into our passage of study, let's see how familiar we are with it. What is 'The Lord's Prayer' and when and where did you first hear about it?

Read **Matthew 6:7-15** and discuss the following.

Jesus tells us what we should *not* do when we pray. What does He warn against, and why?

According to Jesus how should we approach the Lord in prayer? What knowledge should we consider before voicing our prayers? How should we address Him?

Jesus gives us a model for prayer. He is showing us *how* to pray (**v.9a**), not exactly *what* to pray. Why is this an important distinction for us to make?

Briefly discuss what each of the following lines mean.

- "hallowed be Your Name" (**v.9**)
- "Your kingdom come" (**v.10**)
- "Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven" (**v.10**)
- "Give us this day our daily bread" (**v.11**)

What kind of "debts" does Jesus have mind in **v.12**?

Jesus expands on forgiveness in **v.14-15**. How is our willingness to forgive others connected to our prayer life? Why do you think Christ expands upon this topic?

List the themes that emerge from **v.13**. Share some practical things you might personally pray for in light of this part of Christ's example prayer.

On a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being 'hardly ever' and 10 being 'all the time,' how would you grade your prayer life? Is prayer a strength or a weakness? If it is a strength, share things that have been helpful. If a weakness, share what makes it particularly difficult.

What about this passage has most comforted and/or convicted you personally?

Conclude by praying together for one another.