



**Sept. 24, 2023**

**“Gospel of the Kingdom- Prayer”**

**Matthew 6:5-14 Gospel of the Kingdom**

**Summary: Prayer – what subject has more intrigue and difficulty? Jesus in Matthew 6 gives a model of prayer that a child understands and scholars can study. Before His model prayer, Jesus instructs us to not pray to impress people or think we need to work to get our Heavenly Father’s attention. Instead He knows what we need before we ask. Jesus’ model prayer is worship of God then our wishlist of bread, forgiveness and protection.**

**Scripture: John 17:1; 1 Kings 8:22, 18:28; Jeremiah 12:5; Acts 2,6; Ephesians 6:12-18**

**Community Group Questions**

**The Don’ts (Matthew 6:5-8)**

- “Prayer is supposed to be family fellowship with our Father.”
- How might you pray differently knowing that God already knows your prayer?
- Why do we pray with our heads bowed and hands folded? (1 Kings 8:22)
- Why should God listen to you?

**The Do’s (Matthew 6:9-16)**

- When praying, “don’t begin with your wishlist, begin with your worship.”
- “God is not here to make my life easy.” Why is it important to know that God often answers prayer by strengthening us? (Jeremiah 12:5)
- Jesus inaugurated the Kingdom; what’s the value of knowing that God’s Kingdom is here now?
- “The mark of the Jesus community is forgiveness.”
- How does unforgiveness work against me?
- “The Lord’s prayer is plural;” how might this affect the way we pray?
- “Prayer is spiritual warfare, that’s why it’s so hard.”
- “Prayer is the stitching that keeps the armor of God on the believer.”
- “Prayer should be brief, frequent, and intense.” - Martin Luther