



Things to Talk About and Reflect Upon

"Lord, Teach Us to Pray"

Points from Sunday's Message

- Point 1 - Prayer is Essential, not optional
- Point 2 - Prayer is about relationship, not performance
- Point 3 - Prayer requires persistence
- Point 4 - Prayer is rooted in trusting a good Father

Key Verse:

"So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you."

—Luke 11:9

Discussion Questions:

1. Jesus as Our Model

Questions: Jason pointed out that Jesus — the sinless Son of God — still made prayer central to His life, not a last resort. What does it tell us about prayer that Jesus, who had no weakness or sin, still depended on the Father through prayer? How does that challenge the way you currently view prayer in your own life?

2. The Lord's Prayer: Relationship Over Performance

Questions: Jason emphasized that the Lord's Prayer is a *model*, not a script, and that prayer is about relationship, not performance. Which part of the Lord's Prayer — Father, hallowed be your name, your will be done, daily bread, forgiveness, or deliverance — do you find most challenging to actually *mean* when you pray, and why?

Further Reading: Matthew 6:5–15 — Jesus' fuller teaching on prayer in the Sermon on the Mount, including the context around the Lord's Prayer.

3. "Your Will Be Done" — Trusting God's Plan

Questions: Praying "your will be done" can be said with resentment or with trust. Jason used Jesus in Gethsemane as the ultimate example of submitting to the Father even in anguish. Can you think of a time when you prayed for something and the answer was "no" or silence? Looking back, how do you see God's goodness (or struggle to see it) in that situation?

Further Reading: Luke 22:39–46 — Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, and Romans 8:26–28 — the Spirit interceding and God working all things for good.

4. Persistence in Prayer

Questions: Jason explained that "ask, seek, knock" in the original language carries the idea of *keep* asking, *keep* seeking, *keep* knocking. He also shared the church saying, "Where prayer is focused, power falls." Be honest with the group: what most commonly causes you to stop praying for something — discouragement, distraction, doubt, or something else? What would it look like practically to build more consistency into your prayer life this week?

Further Reading: James 5:13–18 — on the powerful prayer of a righteous person, and Luke 18:1–8 — Jesus' parable of the persistent widow.

5. Starting Simple

Questions: Jason reminded the group that the Lord's Prayer is only about 59 words and can be prayed in under 30 seconds — and that Jesus gave it as a *starting point*. What is one specific, simple change you could make this week to pray more consistently? (Examples: praying during your commute, before a meal, or when you first wake up.) Share it with the group so you can follow up with each other.

6. God as a Good Father

Question: Jason acknowledged that for some people, the word "father" doesn't automatically bring comfort because of painful or absent earthly fathers. He pointed to Romans 8:15 — that we have been *adopted* as children of God and can cry out "Abba, Father." How has your understanding of God as Father been shaped (positively or negatively) by your experience with your earthly father? How does the truth of adoption into God's family speak into that?

Further Reading: Romans 8:14–17 — on the Spirit of adoption, and Psalm 68:5 — God as a father to the fatherless.

Use these blended questions for deeper personal reflection, prayer, or small group discussion.