

**PRAYERS OF THE BIBLE**

**LESSON 20 MATTHEW 6:5-15**

1. How has your faith or prayer life been impacted from last week’s study on the **appeals of faith from the Centurion, Jairus and the bleeding woman?**

**THE DISCIPLE’S REQUEST: TEACH US TO PRAY**

The disciples, who had walked alongside Jesus day-in and day-out in close proximity to Him for the years of His ministry, asked Jesus how to pray. Both Luke and Matthew record Jesus’ model prayer, better known as “the Lord’s prayer” in their gospels. See **Luke 11:1-13***.*

2. As you read **Matthew 6:5-15**, ask God to teach you to pray and jot down phrases that catch your attention.

3. a) Jesus clearly sets up a contrast in ways of praying in **V5-8**. What are the distinguishing factors found in **V5** and **7** as compared to **V6** and **8**? See **Matthew 6:1-4, 16-18** and **Ecclesiastes 5:2** for additional insights.

b) *Challenge question*: What do think the phrase “they have received their reward” means?

4. Read **Matthew 6:8**. How is it meaningful to you that your Father knows what you need before you ask Him, and how might that impact you?

5. Put the opening phrase to Jesus’ model prayer (**V9)** in your own words. Comment on how it compares with the way you typically begin your prayers.

6. In **V10**, it is modelled for us to pray “your kingdom come, your will be done.” What does this stir up in your heart and in what situation will you pray these phrases?

7. **V11** highlights our Father as sustainer and provider who cares for our everyday needs. What is the “daily bread” you pray for most often and why?

8. Jesus explains in **V12, 14 and 15,** the necessity to be forgiving in order to receive forgiveness from God. Reflect on what you have been forgiven and share where you struggle to forgive others. How does this new insight impact your capacity to forgive?

9. In **V13** Jesus acknowledges that we will be tempted to fall into sin. Write a short truth from the following verses that enlarge your understanding of temptation and deliverance in the lives of believers.

* **1 Corinthians 10:13**
* **James 1:13**

10. What attributes of God were revealed to you in this passage as Jesus taught His disciples (and us!) about prayer?

11. **HEART REFLECTION**

**Psalm 32:8 “I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.”** Write a prayer incorporating what the Lord is teaching you about prayer and how He is counselling you to pray according to His model.

**NAME PRAYER REQUEST**