

This document contains all discussion questions including stand alone sermons as well as the series, “The Lord’s Prayer” with most recent at top. We invite you to review and discuss.

Discussion Questions
November 27

Share a time when you felt close to God.

Matthew 6:13b “For Yours is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.”

The Lord’s Prayer begins and ends with praise. Why do you think that is?

What, if any, is the difference between praise and thanks?

Three Hebrew words for praise:

“Hallal” – “to be vigorously excited, to celebrate”

“Barak” – “to bless, to be still”

“Shabach” – “to address in a loud tone, to shout”

What do these words teach you about praise? Which of these do you most relate to?

Read Psalm 134:2. Why do you think the Bible encourages a physical response to praising God?

We praise God for His attributes, His character. This doxology lists at least four attributes of God.

God is sovereign, the ultimate authority – “Yours is the kingdom”

God is almighty – “and the power”

God is glorious – “and the glory”

God is eternal – “forever”

Choose one of these attributes and share a time when this attribute of God became real to you.

What other attributes can you praise God for? Explain.

Spend time praising God for who He is.

Discussion Questions for November 20

Name something you are stressed about.

Is worrying productive? Is there a good side to worry?

Read Philippians 4:6. What is the antidote to worry (anxiety, stress, etc.)? Explain.

Read 1 Peter 5:7. What is your take-away from this verse?

“There is no problem too big for God’s power or too small for God’s concern.”

Read Matthew 6:34. According to Jesus, what is key to not worrying?

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:18. How would this help in coping with stress?

“There is always something to be grateful for.”

Read Philippians 4:8. Why is this important to dealing with worry?

Read Matthew 14:22-32. How was Peter able to overcome his fear?

Read Philippians 4:7. Why can we have peace of mind?

Discussion Questions for Small Groups – November 13

Read Galatians 5:13 through 26; and Galatians 2:20

- V.13, Provide some examples to serve one another humbly in love.
- V.14. Why should you love your neighbor as yourself?
- V.15. Why do you think Paul gives this warning?
- V.16. How can we walk in the spirit?
- V.17. Why are the flesh and spirit in conflict?
- V.18. What does this mean?
- V.19 through 21. Paul says, “I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.” What is the kingdom of God? Is this the entire list of sins?
- V.22 and 23. Provide an example of each fruit of the spirit? Provide an example if applicable to your spouse, children, sibling, parent, neighbor, co-worker, neighbor, opposite political views, etc.
- V.24 and Galatians 2: 20. What does this personally mean to you as a Christian?
- V25. How do you keep in step in the spirit?
- V26. How could one become conceited, provoking and envying each other? How do you avoid any of these three or all of them?

Discussion Questions for November 6

Name a temptation that you don't really struggle with.

Read Matthew 6:13. What is one take-away from reading these simple words?

Is temptation wrong? Explain.

Read James 1:13-15. What are the components (and consequences) of sin?

Read Hebrews 4:15. How does this help us in our struggle?

Read Ephesians 6:12-17. What principles do you learn about our struggle with sin?

Read 2 Corinthians 10:4-6. What do you learn from this passage?

Read James 4:7. How did Jesus resist the devil? (See Matthew 4:1-11.)

What are some practical ways for us to resist the devil?

Read 1 Corinthians 10:13. When it comes to sin, the three promises of God listed are:

- 1. Common trials**
- 2. Controlled pressures**
- 3. Conquering grace**

What encouragement do you find in these promises?

Small Group Questions

Discussion Points

10/30/22

What are some examples of how God loves and forgives us?

Talk about a time when it was difficult to forgive someone.

Have you ever had to forgive someone multiple times for the same offense? Or different ones? What made this difficult?

Think and discuss the idea that God forgives us in that same way ... repeatedly and never ending.

Our Forgiveness Depends on How We Forgive Others

- Is this shocking or does this seem unreasonable?
- Why is forgiveness so important to God?

Talk to your group about times when a burden, guilt, worry has been lifted off your shoulders. Now put yourself in someone else's shoes ... being the one who is forgiven when you don't deserve it - the weight lifting off you.

Pray together to realize how much you have forgiven and how it's your opportunity to go and love and forgive like Jesus!

Discussion Questions
“Forgive Us Our Debts”
October 23

If you could have any superpower, what would it be?

Read Mark 2:1-12. Why does this passage teach about Jesus?

Is guilt good or bad? Why?

What do you think is the difference between true and false guilt?

What do you think is the purpose of guilt? (See Galatians 3:24)

Erich Fromm wrote, “It is indeed amazing that in an irreligious culture as ours, the sense of guilt should be so widespread and deep-rooted as it is.” It could be said that all of modern psychoanalysis is an attempt to help people with guilt.

Read Romans 3:23, 6:23 and 8:1. We are guilty because we have sinned, but God declares us “not guilty.” Why? (See Colossians 2:13-15)

Read 1 John 1:9. How is it that God is just when He forgives us?

Read Matthew 12:31. What is the one sin God will not forgive? (See Matthew 12:22-24.)

“I know God forgives me, but I can’t forgive myself.” What would you say to someone who said that to you?

God not only wants to forgive you; He wants you to feel forgiven. What does that look like?

Discussion Questions

October 16

Share a prayer request that God has answered in your life.

Read Matthew 18:19. What do you think this means?

Read Matthew 7:9-11. What is your take-away about God from this?

“Although God knows our need, he still wants us to articulate it to him.” Why is that? What keeps you from asking God for your needs?

Do you ask God for what you want as well as what you need? Is that okay?

A traffic signal as an analogy of how God responds to our prayers:

- **Green – “yes”**
- **Amber – “wait” (persevere)**
- **Red – “no”**

Are you experiencing a “green”, “amber” or “red” response to any specific prayer at the moment? Share your experiences together.

Pete Greig writes, “When you pray about the small things in life, you get to live with greater gratitude. If you only pray about big, gnarly, hairy problems that seem serious enough to warrant divine intervention, you will only very occasionally experience miracles. But when you learn to pray about the little things in life – you start to notice how many minor miracles are scattered around in the course of an average day.”

Pray for one another’s prayer requests.

As you pray, keep in mind:

Pray incrementally. Pray for a specific next step, rather than jumping to the top of the mountain.

Pray the promises of God. Is there a specific promise that relates to the situation?

Discussion Questions

October 9

Share a highlight of your past week.

Read Matthew 6:10. The kingdom of God was Jesus' favorite topic – He spoke more about the kingdom than any other topic. What is the kingdom of God? Is it political?

Read 1 John 5:14. What do you learn about prayer from this verse?

Read 2 Peter 3:9. What do you learn about God from this verse?

How can we learn what God's will is?

Read Luke 11:5-11. What strikes you about this passage?

Read Mark 14:36. What does the example of Jesus say to you?

Pray for the kingdom of God to come, and His will be done in the following areas:

- **Our world**
- **Our nation**
- **Our state**
- **Our city**
- **My family**
- **My life**

Discussion Questions – October 2, 2022

“Hallowed Be Your Name”

Think of a time when you felt close to God. What attribute of God did you experience?

Why do you think we most often associate prayer with asking, rather than worship?

Read Acts 4:24-31. The early church put their own crisis into perspective by worshipping.

What are some things you could do to foster an attitude of worship in your daily routine?

“In commanding us to glorify Him, God is inviting us to enjoy Him.” – C.S. Lewis

Have you experienced the connection between worship and joy? Do you enjoy spending time with God? When are the times that prayer is most enjoyable for you?

Pete Greig notes that prayer is primarily about relationship with God. “It’s relational, not transactional.” How does this change your perspective of coming to God in prayer?

Read Psalm 8. Take time to Pause and Rejoice.

Pause - Take a moment of silence to reflect on what you’ve just read.

Rejoice – Thank God for one or two things in your life.

Discussion Questions for **September 25** – Small Group

1. What is/was your image of your earthly Father?
2. What is your image of God as your heavenly Father?
 - a. Are these two similar?
 - b. Is there a possibility that this influences your life? Your decisions or actions?
3. Read these verses below and discuss what God might think about you – his child...

Matthew 6:26

1 John 3:1

James 1:17

Luke 6:36

Psalm 68:5

Psalm 103:13

John 3:16

Matthew 7:11

4. Do these verses change your image of your heavenly Father? Can you think of any other stories or parables that show the image and character of your heavenly Father?

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Discussion Questions for **September 18**

Think of a prayer that was answered the way you had hoped. What was it?

Read Matthew 11:28. How do you think this relates to prayer?

Read Ephesians 3:17-19. What does Paul pray on our behalf?

Read Matthew 8:5-13. What do you learn about prayer from this?

In his book, "How to Pray," Pete Grieg says the best piece of advice on prayer is to keep it simple, keep it real, and keep it up.

1. Keep it simple – (don't make it complicated.)

Read Luke 11:1-4. What is your first impression from reading the model prayer of Jesus?

2. Keep it real – (don't role-play before God.)

Read Matthew 6:7-8. What keeps you from being authentic with God?

3. Keep it up – (don't give up praying too soon.)

Read Luke 18:1-8. What is the point of this parable? Do you find it challenging to persevere in prayer? How can we be encouraged to keep going?

Share one way you'd like to grow in prayer.