

The Lords Prayer

Matthew 6.9-13



Key Points :

Jesus taught his disciples a helpful structure for prayer

- This structure is in addition to other ways of praying not a replacement. The disciples were Jews and would have been extremely familiar with prayer and would have prayed regularly in their home.
- Jesus was helping them (and us) focus and converse with God in a way that helped deepen the relationship and made them think in new ways. Rather than ritualistic (though it can be that too - in a good way) it was meant to be a conversation starter to take the conversation to deeper places.

Questions:

Conversation Starter

1. Have you ever been part of an organisation where the Lord's prayer is said regularly. School, church, uniformed organisations etc. Did you find it helpful?

Start Thinking & Sharing

2. Read through the Lord's prayer more than once - choose between reading together, reading silently, one person reading - maybe choose different translations (the message or The word on the street versions are interesting as is the kings James version).. What struck you? — did you notice different things in different readings?

3. Which parts of this prayer are encouraging?

4. Which parts are challenging?

Start praying. Be bold, and pray specifically.

5. A time of open prayer - take the thoughts and conversation that the Lord's prayer led you too and turn it into prayer.

Start doing. Commit to a step, and live it out this week.

6. Decide how you will engage with the Lord's prayer this week. A line every day, praying the whole thing each day (maybe in different versions) or ?