

Fully Alive - experiencing the Good Life according to Jesus

study #8

Reflecting on Sunday's Teaching :: "The Lord's Prayer"

As we think back to Sunday's teaching, what stands out for you?

- *Was there something that hit home, challenged, or encouraged you?*
- *What questions are you left with and what are you doing with them?*
- *Is Jesus realistic about real humans living among real neighbours in a community?*

Read the Text :: Matthew 6: 9-13

If possible, read the text aloud from a few different translations - and take note of the differences and how they help you hear Jesus from a new perspective. (And since this is a well-known passage, perhaps read it slowly and reflectively so that you can hear his words in a new way).

Digging In ::

- Share together the 'mechanics'--how, when, how often, where, silent or spoken aloud, body posture (eg. kneeling, standing, sitting, driving) and with whom--you personally engage in prayer. Who mentored you in these things--a parent, pastor, friend, church tradition, movies or other media? How did Glen's teaching help you or speak into this?
- Largely as a function of your own age or home culture, when you were a child was the Lord's Prayer ever used in school? If so, do you recall your own feelings or peer expectations about it?
- Being transparent and honest, is your natural default to regard prayer primarily as a time of Godward worship? A 'shopping list'? A discipline like brushing your teeth (good for you but not particularly enjoyable)? A life-line when crisis hits? A connecting discipline with your loving Father in heaven?
 - In the Lord's Prayer does Jesus teach a simpler OR more difficult life path for you in your real world? Is Matthew 6:9-13 realistic in YOUR real life or does it avoid the rough road? (Be honest)
- What might be the significance of Jesus teaching us to address "OUR Father"? Is this only for group or congregational prayer or is there something important about 'OUR-ness' when we pray, even when alone?

Prayer ::

- Alone and in your own 'quiet space', what is God teaching you about himself, about yourself and what that one-on-one relationship might look like, especially about prayer?
- As a group (family, small group, congregation), what might God be teaching us about how we pray alongside others (even--or perhaps especially--those who are physically absent from us? And what might he be teaching us about our priorities and balance?
- Invite, describe and share your personal 'occasions for unexpected joy' as you discover renewed relationship with your Abba Father. As the video of Glen's sermon nudges, what are some creative places and spaces where you might explore conversational prayer with our Father?

- Ask God to help you find personal and practical ways to celebrate your freedom in Jesus.

Ah dear ones, privately and together, let us learn from and celebrate with our rescuing brother Jesus. 😊