“PRAYER” for Fusion Ladies’ Discussion: 8//18/2020 - Outline

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**READ** both Luke 11:1 and Matt. 6:5-8 as a preface, and then say and read Jesus’ response:

**Matt. 6:9-13 (ESV)**: Pray like this:

1/ Our Father in heaven,

2/ hallowed be your name.

3/ 10 Your kingdom come,

your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

4/ 11 Give us this day our daily bread,

5/ 12 And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

6/ 13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Familiar conclusion: “For Thine is the kingdom and the power and glory forever and ever. Amen”

Who’s conclusion?

**Continue with Matt. 6:14-15:**  For if you forgive others their trespasses, your Heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

**Consider**:

What is Jesus emphasizing? Notice the column of numbers 1 through 6 to the left of the verses. These are known as First, Second, Third, etc. Petitions.

Focus on the Fifth.

**READ** Luke 11:1-4 and compare to Matt. 6:9-13

Find Biblical examples of how our Lord Jesus prayed. Note examples in Luke listed below, but find others too!

Luke 3:21   
 Luke 5:15-16

Luke 6:12

Luke 9:18, 28-29

Luke 11:1

Luke 22:32, 41

Luke 23: 34, 46

**DISCUSS** the use of a “fixed form of prayer”.

Is the acrostic **“ACTS.S.S”** a good tool to help **us** speak with God? (REFER to scriptures noted, and any you prefer)

**A**doration: praising and worshiping God for His greatness (Ps. 145:3), for His presence with me

**C**onfession: seeking to cleanse my heart: agree with Him on anything He shows me that is sinful or unhealthy in my life (I John1:9) Be ready to forgive others how have sinned against you.

**T**hanksgiving: expressing appreciation for God’s blessings and provisions (Ps. 107:1),

including those good gifts we didn’t even ask for

**S**upplication: Share with my concerns *for other*s and myself. Seek His direction, His strength, and His healing for hurts and stresses (I Peter 5:8) You can tell God what is needed (Phil. 4:9)

**S**ilence: listening in hopeful anticipation to the voice of God for “answers.”

**How important is quiet time, meditation, daily devotions and/or prayers with our Lord? (James 4:8) How can I be with Him, be present with Him, experiencing God in prayer?**

An approach for personally fleshing out prayers**:** Reference:  *First15.org*

Be honest with yourself: I Peter 3:10-12: “Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit; let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer.”

God already knows me: I need to admit who I am, warts and all, before I can speak frankly with Him. He wants us to work on our “core”, to meet us privately, and is “frustratingly patient” with me.

Talking with God: Jeremiah 29:12-13 Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

One of the greatest privileges afforded to us by the filling of the Holy Spirit at salvation is the ability to converse with God!

When your Mind Wanders! (Does that ever happen to you??) I Peter 5:6-7: humble yourself, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting off your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

Use it as a “window into your heart” and think, pray.

Learn to Listen: John 10:27: “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.”

Try not to be your own shepherd! Choose to hear and follow his voice. (Tune out “elsewhere”!)

Be still: Ps. 46:10 Be still and know that I am God

God speaks to our hearts—**have faith and trust**!

Take self out of the center of everything and put God there instead: a fruitful discipline.