

**DOING LIFE TOGETHER**

10. Of the six things we prayed for today, which do you most often neglect to pray for on your own? How will you pray differently this week?

11. What most often distracts you from spending quality time communing with God in prayer? How might you limit these distractions this week?

**Prayer Requests**

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**October 4, 2015**

**Sermon Notes**

**Spiritual Foundations: Prayer**

**Matthew 6:1-15**

Areas where it is easy to play to the public gallery.

- 1. Giving                      2. Praying                      (3. Fasting)

**Giving**

*How not to give:* Do not announce or boast or be arrogant about it. Others know about it, that is your reward.

*How to give:* 1. Spontaneously, 2. Anonymously, 3. Pure motives. God will reward you.

**Praying**

*How not to pray:* Do not put on a pretense. Others see, that is your reward.

*How to pray:* Behind a closed door. (Uninterrupted)

**The Lord's teaching on prayer:** What are the rewards He gives.

- 1. Reward is an Intimate relationship with God.
- 2. **R**\_\_\_\_\_ is that prayer brings us into **C**\_\_\_\_\_ our will with His.
- 3. **R**\_\_\_\_\_ is that prayer brings our **N**\_\_\_\_\_ from God.

These requests are for our needs.

- 1. **P**\_\_\_\_\_ need.                      **D**\_\_\_\_\_ **B**\_\_\_\_\_.
- 2. **S**\_\_\_\_\_ need.                      **F**\_\_\_\_\_.
- 3. **M**\_\_\_\_\_ need.                      Lead us not into **T**\_\_\_\_\_.

"For yours is the kingdom, (not mine); the power, (not mine); and the glory; (not mine) forever, Amen."

*What are you going to do with what you have heard today?*

I would simply challenge you to spend time alone/away from any distractions and talk to God and let Him talk to you and see what happens.

## **GROWTH GROUP HOMEWORK**

October 4, 2015

### **THINKING THINGS THROUGH**

1. If we asked a random sample of people in the Okotoks area, “How can I pray for you?”, what kinds of responses do you think we would get? What sorts of things do you think most people in our culture pray about?
2. Compare these responses with the things Jesus commands us to pray about in the Lord’s Prayer (Matt. 6:9-15). How are they similar? How are they different?

### **DIGGING DEEPER**

In your growth group you will pray together using the acronym: C.H.U.R.C.H.

#### **CONFESSION – READ ISAIAH 59:1-2.**

3. As we commune with God in prayer, why is confession essential?

#### **HOMES – READ COLOSSIANS 3:12-.**

4. According to Paul (v. 13), how should we pray for our families beyond praying for their health and wellbeing? How might unforgiveness hinder our prayers? Our spiritual growth?

5. How can we encourage one another to “let the peace of Christ rule in [our] hearts”? In the context of our homes? In the context of our church?

#### **UNITY – READ PHILIPPIANS 2:1-7.**

6. Why is humility essential to unity? Why is it important that we pray both for humility and unity in the church?

#### **RULERS – READ 1 TIMOTHY 2:1-5.**

7. Why is it important that we pray for the leaders of our provincial and federal government (see Rom. 13:1-2)? What should we ask God to do in and through these leaders?

#### **COMMUNITY – READ 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17-20.**

8. What has God entrusted to us as Christ followers (v. 19)? What might it look like for us to be good ambassadors of that which God has entrusted to us in the communities in which we live?

#### **HEART – READ 1 PETER 3:15.**

9. What does it mean to “revere Christ as Lord” in your heart? How might we help each other do so?