

Sermon: When You Pray
Series: *Deeper*

Scripture: Matt. 6:5-15
Date: January 2, 2022

OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about us?

- a) Who taught you how to pray? When do you pray?
- b) In what ways have you seen the “fear of man” creep into your prayers (ex: not praying publicly, or praying to show off publicly).
- c) In what ways have you seen your prayer life try to manipulate God rather than simply commune with God?

2. What does this passage teach us about God?

- a) Jesus told us to pray to God as our father. Is it difficult for you to see God as your father? Why or why not?
- b) God knows what we need before we ask, and he knows our hearts. How can these truths encourage you in prayer?

3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

- a) Jesus not only modeled the Lord’s Prayer for us he also fulfills it. Think through how the life and death of Jesus fulfills each phrase:
 - Thy Kingdom come –
 - The will be done –
 - Our daily bread –
 - Forgive us our debts –
 - Lead us not into temptation –
 - Deliver us from evil (or the evil one) -

APPLICATION

- a) Practice praying a prayer that expresses both dependency upon God and that also declares the hallowedness (holiness/honor) of God.

FIGHTER VERSES: Ephesians 3:14-21.

PRAYER

- Honor and hallow God’s name – his character and promises.
- Confess ways that you use prayer to manipulate God rather than fear God.
- Thank Jesus for fulfilling the Lord’s Prayer.
- Ask God to help you to commune with him honestly and dependently.