

- The **enemy** doesn't want you to pray.

…The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results. James 5:16b

- We can't live the life Jesus calls us to live **without prayer**.

- The life Jesus calls us to live **requires** the prayer Jesus teaches us to practice.

9 Pray then like this: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. Matthew 6:9–13

- The Lord's Prayer is not a script to **recite**, It's a **pattern** to follow.

Learning the pattern of prayer: (recap)

- We Connect with God as our **loving father**.
- We **Revere** His name.
- We put **His agenda** before our requests.

Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need. Matthew 6:33

Learning the pattern of prayer: (Cont.)

Give us this day our daily bread. Matthew 6:11

- Depend on God for **absolutely everything**.

I look up to the hills, but where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. Psalm 121:1–2

19 And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19

Action step:

Establish God as your **provider** everyday.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Matthew 6:12
…and forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us. Matthew 6:12 (NLT)

- Get your **heart** right with God and others.

8 If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. 9 But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness. 1 John 1:8-9

Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. Colossians 3:13
Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Ephesians 4:32

And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins. Mark 11:25

For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins. Matthew 6:14–15

Action step:

Ask God to reveal someone you need to **forgive**.

13 And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. Matthew 6:13
13 And don't let us yield to temptation, but rescue us from the evil one. Matthew 6:13 (NLT)

- Step into your **spiritual battle**.

14 Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away. These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death. James 1:14–15

16 So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves. Galatians 5:16

13 The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience. And God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, he will show you a way out so that you can endure. 1 Corinthians 10:13
11 Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. Ephesians 6:11
18 Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere. Ephesians 6:18

Action step:

Identify your most vulnerable point and make a spiritual **battle plan**.

VISION:

TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain.
- The enemy doesn't want you to pray. What are the biggest distractions or obstacles that keep you from spending consistent time with God?
- Why do you think it's possible to be busy doing things for God while neglecting your relationship with Him?
- Jesus gave us a pattern for prayer, not just words to recite. How does understanding that change the way you approach prayer?
- What does it look like in everyday life to connect with God as your loving Father and revere His name?
- What is one area of your life where you struggle to put God's agenda ahead of your own?
- "Give us this day our daily bread." What makes it difficult for us to depend on God for absolutely everything rather than relying on ourselves?
- How have you experienced God as your provider? How might remembering His faithfulness change the way you face today's needs?
- Why is it sometimes easier to ask God for forgiveness than it is to forgive someone who has hurt us?
- Is there anyone you may be holding bitterness or resentment toward? What would it look like to take a step toward forgiveness?
- James 1:14–15 teaches that temptation often begins with our own desires. What are some situations, habits, or emotions that make you most vulnerable to temptation?
- How can prayer and the Holy Spirit help us recognize temptation and choose obedience before we fall into sin?
- Your spiritual battle plan: What is one practical change you need to make this week to strengthen your prayer life, address an area of unforgiveness, or guard against temptation?The enemy doesn't want you to pray. What are the biggest distractions or obstacles that keep you from spending consistent time with God?

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Learning to Pray - Pt. 2

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