

Session Theme: Prayer

<u>Scripture Story:</u> Matthew 6:5-9 (The Message) Matthew 6:10-12 (NRSV) Activity: Lord's Prayer

Video Clip: Catch Me If You Can

Matthew6:5 "And when you come before God, don't turn that into a theatrical production either. All these people making a regular show out of their prayers, hoping for stardom! Do you think God sits in a box seat? 6 Here's what I want you to do: Find a quiet, secluded place so you won't be tempted to role-play before God. Just be there as simply and honestly as you can manage. The focus will shift from you to God, and you will begin to sense his grace. 7 The world is full of so-called prayer warriors who are prayer-ignorant. They're full of formulas and programs and advice, peddling techniques for getting what you want from God. 8 Don't fall for that nonsense. This is your Father you are dealing with, and he knows better than you what you need. 9 With a God like this loving you, you can pray very simply. Like this:

(NRSV)

"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. 10 Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. 11 Give us this day our daily bread. 12 And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. 13 And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one. "

NOTES:

- As we talk about the Lord's Prayer today, think of it from two different perspectives.
 - 1. It's a mighty fine prayer to pray as is. No changes or adjustments needed.
 - 2. It's a model, like an outline of prayer, that teaches us the 5 components of prayer that make prayer, prayer.

The Lord's Prayer "Quiz"

- a) "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
- b) Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
- c) Give us this day our daily bread.
- d) And forgive us our debts (sins), as we forgive our debtors (those who sin against us).
- e) And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from evil. "
- *f)* [For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.]

Components of the Lord's Prayer

Put the number of the component that you think best describes each line above next to the lines above. Feel free to put more than one number next to a verse.

- 1. Invocation (inviting God into you/your life)
- 2. Praise (telling God what you like about God and what you think God does well)
- 3. Addressing who you are speaking to
- 4. Surrendering
- 5. Asking/Petitioning