

# NORTHWAYS SMALL GROUPS

**Sermon Series:** UNSELF: A Season of Surrender

**Sermon Title:** Teach Us to Pray

**Sermon Text:** Luke 11:1-13; Matthew 6:9-13

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**Small Group Reminders:** Northway is observing Lent together. Be sure to download the Lent Guide Booklet from NWC.FYI

**This Weeks Fast Recommendation:** Caffeine and Sweets

Be sure to review other announcements and links @ NWC.FYI

## Pre-Discussion Questions:

When you met last week, you should have shared with your group at least one action step you would take. **How did you do?**

## Icebreaker Questions:

- As a child, what did you call your parents? Did your family have any other nicknames or affectionate names for each other? How about your grandparents? How about your own kids?

Read this week's **Sermon in a Sentence:** *Prayer is our Declaration of Dependence on God, where we align our will to his and place our complete trust in Him.*

## Discussion Questions:

1. **REVIEW:** If needed, briefly run through the summary of Sunday's message. (See other side.)
  1. What did God teach you through the message this weekend? Any personal insights coming out of Sunday's message?
2. **DISCUSS**
  1. Jesus' disciples said, "Lord, teach us to pray." Have you had people in your life that you looked to as someone who really knew how to pray? If so, how do you think it impacted their life? How did it influence the lives of others?
  2. Have you ever struggled with prayer? What to say, what to do? Talk about why you think that might be.
  3. Discuss how using a framework like the one Jesus offered could be useful in teaching us to pray.
  4. Which parts of the prayer are we most likely to leave out? Why?
  5. Walk through each section of the prayer outline (see other side) and try to come up with a one to three word descriptions of each. (Example: Our Father... = Reminder of Relationship)
3. **PRACTICE:**
  - Using the form on page three, take a few moments for each person to write/type each section/phrase in their own words, personalizing it for their current circumstances where appropriate.
  - Now enter into a few moments of group prayer time. If you're comfortable and it's not too personal, pray your prayers out loud similar to this:
    - The Leader offers the phrase as Jesus said it: "Our Father Who Art in Heaven."
    - Then one by one, each group member that is willing offers up their personalized paraphrase. "You will always be my loving Father." (It's ok if everyone's phrases are similar and even identical.)
    - Once it feels like everyone who is willing to pray that phrase has done so (be patient), move on to the next phrase: "Hallowed be Thy Name," etc.

## Application/Reflection

- Write down the sermon in a sentence.
- Write down and share with the group at least one action step you'll take this week, especially as it relates to developing a consistent time of prayer.
- Write down one person's name from your group (Make sure each person has at least one person, not in the same household), and one thing you could pray for and be intentional throughout the week to pray for them.

## **Unself: Teach Us to Pray**

*Prayer is our Declaration of Dependence on God,  
where we align our will to his and place our complete trust in Him.*

- **Teach us to Pray: The Model prayer offered by the Master**
  - It will probably always be known traditionally as the Lord's Prayer, but it might better be understood as The Disciple's Prayer for Kingdom Righteousness.
- **Our Father, who art in Heaven (Our Precious and Heavenly Father)**
  - By first addressing God as Father of the Heavens, we are stepping into the Kingdom reality of relationship.
  - You are your Poppa's Precious!
- **Hallowed = set apart and revered**
  - "May your name be treasured and loved more than any other, held in an absolutely unique position among humanity."
  - We should pray that his name - the reality of His goodness - will be known, revered, and loved above all else.
  - Notice how we begin our prayer with a focus on God, not ourselves.
- **Your Kingdom come - your will be done**
  - This is very much a prayer of submission - an act of "unselfing."
  - "We should surrender our "little kingdoms" to the rule and reign and will of the Kingdom of Righteousness."
- **Give us this day...**
  - We are to place our every need for today in the hands of the great provider.
  - *Don't worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. **Philippians 4:6 CSB***
  - The godly solution to worry is trust and thanksgiving.
- **Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.**
  - For what do I need to repent and who do I need to forgive?
- **Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.**
  - We should pray for strength to resist poor choices and to live out Kingdom Righteousness.
- **Thine is the Kingdom and the power...**
  - We're making a declaration to God: You're in charge! You can do anything you want! You have the power to accomplish these requests.
- **Amen = "So be it."**

## **The Disciple's Prayer for Kingdom Righteousness**

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 (sins),

As we forgive our debtors (those who have sinned against us).

And do not lead us into temptation,

But deliver us from the evil one.

For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.

Amen.