



RESOURCES FOR GROUPS

TITLE: Kingdom Heart Cry, part 2

TEXT: Matthew 6:9-15

DATE: February 21, 2021

SPEAKER: Pastor Brian Berg

COMMUNITY BUILDING:

- Share an encouraging story about a time God answered prayer.
- What activities are you most looking forward to doing as the weather gets warmer?

CHRIST-CENTERED DISCUSSION:

Bold indicates zoom friendly OR to be used with spiritual growth partners. *Italicized green text is the leader guide.*

- In what ways were you able to turn your heart towards God as you reflected praise back to Him this week?
Check in on any good dinner time discussions or other applications you tried last week. Use this time to see how people are doing as they engage with Scripture and Jesus, especially if you are doing the Joyful Journey gospel read-through.
- Read Matthew 6: 7-8. What do we need to understand about God in order not to be misguided in our prayers like the Gentiles were? How does this text say we should approach God in prayer?
Remember, the Gentiles were sincere in prayer, yet they had a misconception of who God is. We are to approach him as he is, as he's described himself in Scripture. So, understanding the character of God is foundational for kingdom praying. What characteristics did Pastor Brian touch on in the sermon? Are there others?
- **According to Matthew 6:8, "our Father knows what we need before we ask him." If our Father knows what we need before we ask, why do we pray?**
Talk about the effect prayer has on you as people. We pray to God because we delight to be with him and to talk to him, not simply because He gives us things or does what we ask. Spending time with Jesus should motivate us toward prayer. You can use the illustration of a trying to build a relationship without conversing, spending time with or learning about each other - what would that relationship look like?
- How has the Lord's Prayer been used in the religious traditions you grew up in or have been a part of in the past?
- Read Matthew 6: 9- 15 together. What kingdom, spiritual, and physical concerns does the Lord's Prayer present?
- **When you think about the number of requests focused on kingdom needs versus physical needs in this pattern of prayer, does that surprise you? How does that compare with how you pray? Why do you think that is?**
If your group collects prayer requests, dive deeper this week and focus on spiritual or kingdom requests along with physical needs.
- What is the relationship between prayer and forgiveness? What does it tell us about the importance of forgiveness when we read v. 14-15?
See also Matthew 18:21-35 and Mark 11:12-14 & 20-25.
- How does our lack of forgiveness towards others impact our own hearts? How does this impact the way we pray?

FAITHFULLY FOLLOWING:

- Individually or as a group, consider how you can live out the *Kingdom Heart Cry* this week. Pray for the power of the Spirit to equip you to do it.
- The Joyful Journey resource page on our website has many Faithfully Following pieces.