# In-Home Discipleship Guide

Below is a guide to help prepare you (and your small group or family), for this week we will focus on prayer again and the scripture may not align with the teaching on Sunday morning. We encourage you to take advantage of this as you are able, and let us know if there are other ways we can serve you at this time.

### THEME: PRAYER!

**MEMORY VERSE:** "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 also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." Matthew 6:9-13

#### **BIG IDEA: Pray how Jesus taught.**

SONGS: Click here for Sunday's worship set. Be sure to subscribe to our channel!

#### TEACHING PASSAGE: Matthew 6:11-15

See the **next page** for any additional resources, including any activities that can be done with young children.

**Discussion Questions:** 

Matthew 6:11-15

- The first part of "The Lord's Prayer" (verses 9-10) is about God and His attributes (He is our Father, resides in Heaven, hallowed (holy, sacred, revered), reigns as King on Earth and in Heaven) what are more attributes about God in verses 11-15?
- The first 3 petitions focus on the character of God the next 3 are about personnel needs within a community what are they and why are they so important? (verses 11-13)
- 3. How does verse 11 teach us to trust God and how often?
- 4. Verse 12 and then Jesus reemphasizes again in verse 14 the importance of forgiveness what are some steps that you can take in forgiving someone?
- 5. How does our forgiveness or lack of forgiveness to others (verse 15) reflect your understanding of the grace that has been given to you through Jesus Christ?
- 6. Where does temptation (verse 13) come from (Job 1:6, James 1:13-14, 1Corinthians 5:13) and what are some steps that you can take to defend against it?

## **Additional Resources**

#### Teaching Passage: Matthew 6:11-15

11 Give us this day our daily bread,

12 and forgive us our debts,

as we also have forgiven our debtors.

13 And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

14 For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, 15 but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Say: In this prayer bread represents our needs. Discuss what needs we have.

Ask: Why do you think he instructs us to pray for our <u>daily</u> bread?

**Ask:** If God were to give us everything we need all at once to last us a life time, how might that negatively affect our relationship with him? (Our basic needs remind us of our need to rely on Him.)

Read verse 12 again.

**Say:** Debt and debtor indicate the obligation of a righteous life which we owe to God. We owe it to God to live our lives without sin. Of course, we are unable to live a sinless life and therefore we need to rely on him for grace. Our sin separates us from a right relationship with God. But His grace through the death and resurrection of Jesus makes us in a right relationship and therefore we can call Him Father. This verse reminds us that much grace has been extended to us so we too must extend grace to others.

Think of a time when someone offended you or hurt your feelings.

**Ask:** How should understanding this verse change the way you might feel about and respond to the person who offended you? Read verse 13 again.

**Say:** Every experience in life can be pleasant or painful. Whether pleasant or painful God can use it to build up our relationship with Him and reliance on Him. Satan on the other hand will use pleasant experiences to tempt us to regard the pleasant experience as more important than our relationship with God. And Satan will use painful experiences to tempt us to question God's goodness.

**Ask:** Have you ever had a really good day? What made that day special? Have you ever had a really bad day? What made that day so difficult? How can understanding verse 13 help you respond to God in prayer on a good day or a bad day? Read verses 9-13 again.

Ask: If there is one single most important part of the whole prayer what would it be?

Activity: Chose one or more of these family prayer activities.

- 1. Go on a prayer walk around your neighborhood.
- 2. Start a family prayer journal.
- 3. Make a gratitude collage.
- 4. Read and pray through Psalm 25.
- 5. Pray for our pastor and send him a note of encouragement.

