

Title: Pray Like Jesus 4: Jesus Teaches Prayer // **Scripture:** Luke 11:1-13, 18:1-8

ARRIVAL / SOCIAL TIME *15-20 minutes*

Spend the first 15 minutes or so of your time together catching up and socializing with one another. Also find time to catch up together on how the assignments from last week turned out.

SERMON REVIEW *5-10 minutes*

This year we have been pressing into prayer through our series “Pray Like Jesus.” Already we have seen the priority and pattern of prayer in Jesus’ life. We have also seen how prayer affects our identity. This week we learned through the Lord’s Prayer how Jesus taught his disciples to pray. This is important because we live in a world where all kinds of people are teaching people how to pray. In this week’s passage, the disciples ask Jesus how they can learn to pray like him. Jesus’ answer is astonishing, as he gives them a simplified version of the Lord’s Prayer. In this prayer, the themes of Hallowed Father, the Kingdom come, daily Bread, relational Forgiveness and avoiding Temptation emerge. These 5 themes can guide our own time of prayer with God. Even more, as we learn in verses that follow his teaching on prayer, we can participate in prayer because of our assurance of the goodness of God who wants to give his children good gifts.

THE MAIN THOUGHT *keep this in mind as you facilitate discussion*

Prayer is not about reminding God to be good to us, but instead it is refining us to receive His goodness.

SEE IT – Questions *10-15 minutes*

Picture (What is the story saying?): Jon talked about how we all come from different traditions regarding how we pray. How have you been taught to pray in the past? What caught your attention most about the way Jesus taught his disciples to pray? What were the 5 themes of Jesus’ prayer in Luke 11? (Hallowed Father, Kingdom, Bread, Forgiveness, Temptation) Which of these 5 themes stood out to you most? Why?

Mirror (Where am I in the story?): Jon challenged us about our desire to pray—to learn to pray like Jesus. How would you characterize your desire to pray? Why? How is your desire to pray affected when it feels like God isn’t answering? How has your passion for prayer turned into perseverance? Or how has it faded when God has answered your request immediately?

Window (How does the story change how I see those around me?): We learned that often the passion of our prayer life is affected by our view of God. What views of God do you have that might be affecting your prayer life? How would believing that God is good change the way that you pray—even when bad things are happening?

BE IT – Practice *15 minutes*

Change UP // Pause to Pray

Take a moment this week to pray slowly through the Lord’s Prayer together. Read each phrase of the Lord’s Prayer and pause, inviting the group to grab hold of and pray through the phrase. Invite the group to explore each phrase thinking about who God is (intimate and infinite), what God is doing (where the Kingdom has and needs to come), where they are asking God to provide (their needs), where they might need forgiveness (given to them and giving it to others), and where they are struggling with temptation (where are they tempted to walk away from God). After you finish the prayer, invite the group to share the phrase that stood out to them the most.

Change IN // Dare to Answer

Invite the group to think through how God might be using them to answer each other’s prayer. Ask the group what needs are present in each of their lives. Then encourage the group to investigate ways that God could use the group to answer those prayers.

Change OUT // Prayer Walk

Make time this week to walk through your neighborhood with God. As you walk, work through the 5 themes of the Lord’s Prayer using the following questions: Where is God present? Where does the Kingdom need to come? What needs are present? Where might the power of forgiveness need to be present? What temptations might be holding people in captivity? Invite God to help you see the tension and potential resolution of these questions as you walk.

CLOSING PRAYER *5 minutes*

Take a few minutes to gather any prayer requests and pray for each other to SEE IT and BE IT this week.