



Sermon on the Mount ALL FOR HIM

Life Groups Discussion Guide
March 15, 2020

FATHER OF US Matthew 6:9

CONNECT

1. If you took the suggestion to recite the Lord's Prayer while washing your hands, what was your experience? Was it a ritual? Was it life-giving? Was it hard to remember?

CELEBRATE

2. Prayer is supernatural power, connecting us to the God who is able to do more than we can imagine. Given its power, we should use it well. Why then is it so important to study Jesus' teaching on how to pray? What do we risk if we ignore this teaching?
3. Jesus teaches His followers to address God as "our Father." Our earthly fathers, at their best, show us what God is like. At their worst, they hinder us by distorting our perception of our heavenly father. How does your earthly father affect the way you perceive your heavenly father?
4. The first thing Jesus teaches us about prayer is approachability: God is not merely king, but father. What have you done this past week to draw near to God? What can you do next week? (See Hebrews 4:14–16.)
5. When we think of God being "in heaven," we think He is distant. But the Jewish concept of the heavens is more expansive than eternity. It includes the air we breathe and the stars above. It means God is everywhere. How does it change your view of this prayer to think of God filling everything, even the air you breathe?
6. What does it mean to "hallow" God's name in prayer? Why is hallowing God's name the first thing Jesus teaches us to ask for? Why is it so central to the heart of powerful prayer?
7. Think about your prayers from the past week. How often did you hallow God, glorifying and honoring Him? Together, take time to make a list of things to praise God for and pray through each one. After praying through these things, take stock of your heart. Do you feel closer to God or further away? How should this affect your prayer life?

CONTRIBUTE

8. How does the thought of God being our father affect the way we interact with each other in church and in our community?
9. The Lord's Prayer is one of the most well-known passages from all Scripture, even among many who are unchurched. How could you use the Lord's Prayer to share the gospel with someone? How can you use it to teach people about who God is?