

Message Summary: In the Lord's prayer Jesus gives us a template on how to pray in a way that helps us focus on what *matters most*- connection and relationship. Jesus is not as concerned with us repeating a "formula" as He is with modeling a way to *be with* our Heavenly Father.

Pray Like This

Matthew 6:5-15

1. It's meant to be **Personalized** - Matthew 6:9
2. It re-focuses our **Priorities** - Matthew 6:10
3. It addresses our need for daily **Provision** - Matthew 6:11
4. It reminds us to take a **Personal Inventory** - Matthew 6:12
5. It reminds us of our need for Protection - Matthew 6:13

LifeGroup Questions

Open It - Do you remember the first time you were asked to pray out loud for someone or in a group setting? How did you feel, what were you thinking?

Explore It - What would it be like if everyone was nervous to talk to you because they wanted to say everything perfectly? When they spoke why do you imagine God wants to hear from us in a personal manner? What sometimes gets in the way of prayer feeling? Personal? How do you find prayer helps you prioritize your life, experiences, and emotions? In what ways have you experienced God as your Provider? In what ways do you currently need Him to be your Provider? Pause and take a moment as a group to pray together for needs. Prayer gives us space to ask for forgiveness, and allows the Holy Spirit the opportunity to bring conviction. As you feel comfortable, share a time that conviction and forgiveness took place in your prayer time; in what ways did this bring relief? How often do you think about your need for protection? Why is important to remember that God is our Protector?

Apply It - Which facet of your prayer life do you believe needs more focus from you- to personalize, make space to prioritize, seek provision, take personal inventory, or seek/acknowledge your need for protection? Share with the group with the intention of checking in next week.