

**St. Johns' Baptist Church**  
**38-40 Everett Street, Woburn, MA.**  
**Rev. Dr. Larry Edmunds, Senior Pastor**  
**Rev. Dr. Neal E. Pearson, Associate Pastor**  
**Title: Teach Us to Pray**  
**Facilitator: Linda J Austad**  
**Date: October 7, 2006**

**INTRODUCTION:** This will be the first in a series of studies on what have come to be called the "Spiritual Disciplines". We have all had differing experiences with prayer. Tonight we are going to take a look at what Jesus said about prayer, and will look closely at the model that He put before us when His disciples asked Him to teach them to pray. Trust me we are just going to scratch the surface tonight on the depth of Jesus teaching. There is a world of theology rolled into this 20 second prayer that Jesus taught us.

**LESSON SCRIPTURE: Matthew 6:5-13** <sup>5</sup> "And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. <sup>6</sup> But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. <sup>7</sup> And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. <sup>8</sup> Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. <sup>9</sup> "This, then, is how you should pray: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, <sup>10</sup> your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. <sup>11</sup> Give us today our daily bread. <sup>12</sup> Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. <sup>13</sup> And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.' *For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.'*

**Luke 11:1-4** One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples." <sup>2</sup> He said to them, "When you pray, say: "Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. <sup>3</sup> Give us each day our daily bread. <sup>4</sup> Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation. '"

**MEMORY SCRIPTURE:**

**Matthew 28:18-20** And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. <sup>19</sup> "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

**BACKGROUND:**

"Our Father in heaven,	God's Paternity	Our father in heaven – not only recognizes the intimacy that we have with God as our Father, but it also speaks of the awe we should have as we come to Him in prayer.
hallowed be your name,	God's Person	How will knowing God as our father help us in our prayer-life?
your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.	God's program & purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Praying for His will to be done provides a foundation for our prayers. We are basically asking that God's will be done in our lives and in the world.</li> <li>Do we treat God like a genie in a lamp?</li> </ul>
Give us today our daily bread.	Our need for provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>God will supply what we need to honor Him and do His will.</li> <li>What is the difference between a "need" and a "want"?</li> </ul>
Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.	Our need for Pardon	Our forgiveness does not cause God to forgive us. It is evidence that we have entered into God's forgiveness. Those who live in the relief of God's pardon find it easier to forgive those who offend them.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'	Our need for protection & God's Preeminence	When Jesus told His disciples to pray "do not lead us into temptation," what exactly were they being instructed to pray for?
' <i>For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.</i> ' 1	Doxology	The "doxology" was not part of the prayer in the earliest and best manuscripts of either Matthew or Luke. (1 Chr. 29:11)

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- o <sup>1</sup> Resource: Jesus Blueprint for Prayer – Discovery Series Bible Study
  - o Resource: Life Lessons with Max Lucado: A Thirst For God: Studies on the Lord's Prayer

**SUMMARY:** Jesus gave us a model for prayer. In this model we are able to determine God's priorities in prayer. As you continue to read about the life of Jesus and His apostles, notice how, when, why, and where they prayed. Notice further on in **Matthew 6:25** Jesus said, "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? And also **Matthew 6:33-34** But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. <sup>34</sup> Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

**QUESTION(S) FOR REFLECTION:**

1. How will today's reflections on prayer influence your prayer life? Public? Private?
2. What is one way that you will create a new opportunity to pray in your own life?