

#### Week of 9/14/25



### Icebreaker



- Growing up, who usually prayed before meals in your family—and were they short prayers or long ones?
- What's the most memorable meal you've ever had, and why?



# **Discussion Questions**



- Jesus called God "Our Father," making prayer personal and communal. How does calling God "Father" change the way you approach Him?
- Why do you think Jesus starts with worship—"Hallowed be Your name"—before making any requests?
- What are some practical ways you can honor God first in your daily prayers?
- "Your will be done" can be a tough prayer. Can you share a time when God's will didn't match your plan, but you saw His goodness later?
- How do you balance praying boldly for what you want while also surrendering to God's will?
- The sermon said we can actually become the "bread" someone else prayed for. How does that idea challenge the way you serve others?
- Think of a recent moment when you saw God provide "daily bread" for you (practical needs, encouragement, guidance, etc.). What happened?
- Jesus ties forgiveness of our sins to forgiving others. Why do you think it's so difficult to forgive—and what helps you move toward it?
- The pastor said sometimes he has to ask God to give him the want to forgive. How do you relate to that?
- "Lead us not into temptation" is really a prayer for God's help in weakness. Where are you most vulnerable, and how can the group pray for you in that area?

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## Thought for the Group



This week we looked at Jesus' teaching on prayer in Matthew 6:9–13, what we call the Lord's Prayer. Jesus shows us that prayer doesn't have to be long or complicated—it's about connection with our Father.

He starts by reminding us who we're praying to: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Prayer begins with worship and honor. God is holy, set apart, yet close and personal as our Father. Then Jesus teaches us to pray, Your kingdom come, Your will be done. That means surrendering our own plans and trusting God's better plan, even when it's not what we expected. Prayer isn't about bending God's will to ours—it's about aligning our hearts with His. He invites us to ask for daily bread—God's provision for our everyday needs—and to remember it's not just about us. Sometimes we're the answer to someone else's prayer for bread or help. Jesus also calls us to pray for forgiveness and to extend that same forgiveness to others. Forgiving is not optional, and often we need God's help even to want to forgive.

Finally, He teaches us to ask for protection and strength in temptation, admitting we can't do this life alone. We need God and the people He places around us.



# Next Steps



- Identify a part of your life where you've been clinging to your own plan or timing. Each day, pray specifically, "Your will be done," and choose to trust God.
- Look for one practical way to meet a need, big or small, for someone else this week. It could be time, encouragement, a meal, or generosity.
- Ask God to show you one person you need to forgive (or begin to forgive). Even if you don't feel ready, pray for the want to forgive and take one step toward it, whether that's releasing bitterness in prayer, writing it down, or reaching out.

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