

SERMON TITLE: **THE PRAYERFUL LIFE**
TEXT: **MATTHEW 6:5-15 / LUKE 11:1-13**

INTRODUCTION.

In this sermon, we will learn about the truths concerning the nature of prayer as we focus on the Lord's Prayer. As we study what Scripture says, we will learn what prayer is, how we are to pray, and what happens when we pray.

DISCUSSION.

Compare your life today with how you were 5 or 10 years ago. In what ways has your prayer life changed? What is the focus of your prayers? What do you usually pray for or about?

EXAMINATION.

Matthew 6:5-15 —

What is the nature of the prayers of the Scribes and Pharisees? How does their reward contrast with those who pray sincerely?

What is the relationship between forgiveness and prayer (*see also Matthew 18:21-35*)?

If our Father in heaven knows what we need before we ask, why pray?

Luke 11:1-13 —

What does the parable in Luke 11:5-8 teach about prayer? How does that compare with the parable in Luke 18:1-8?

What is the most valuable gift that God can give (*Lk. 11:13*)? How much do you want that gift?

APPLICATION.

- Have you ever before thought of prayer as a discipline for becoming more like Jesus, conforming your will and desires to that of God's will and desires?
- Will the focus of your prayers change? In what way?
- What can you do this week to embody (exhibit and live out) the concerns of the Lord's Prayer? What can you do this week to transform the way you live into a prayer (*1 Thessalonians 5:17; Romans 12:1*)?
- Fact: What is a key truth that you understood from this passage?
- React: What did you feel?
- Act: What are you going to do?