

PRAYER

Matthew 6:5-8; 7:7-11

The sermon began by discussing how in every trade, profession, or job there are certain tasks or responsibilities that are the hardest.

If you are employed or if you stay at home and raise your kids is there one particular task/part of your job that is most challenging? If so, share that with the group.

Do you find any particular task/responsibility that is associated with being a christian to be particularly challenging?

Do you find prayer to be a challenge? If so, why?

Have you ever seen God answer one of your prayers? If so (and if you feel comfortable), share that with the group.

In his instructions on prayer, Jesus assumed that His followers would regularly be praying.

Do you think prayer is a regular part of most christians' lives?

Do you think most Christians should pray more?

Do you wish you prayed more?

When you think about whether you (or others) do a "good job" at praying, how do you define what it means to be "good" at prayer? What does the life of someone who is good at praying look like? What do their prayers look like?

One of the observations from the text was that "God sees us when we pray." The comment was made that many times prayer is a challenge because we focus more on the words of our prayer and whether we are praying properly than we do on God.

Do you agree or disagree?

Do you sometimes worry so much about getting the prayer right, that you forget you are free to simply talk to God?