

**PRAYER**  
Matthew 6:9-13

**This week's sermon begins a study on "The Lord's Prayer."**

*Have you ever attended a church where you repeated the Lord's Prayer at each service? If so, did you enjoy that? Was it meaningful?*

*Have you ever attended a church or event where people read their prayers? If so, did you enjoy that? Was it meaningful? What are the advantages to preparing prayers in advance and reading them? Are there any potential disadvantages?*

**The structure of the Lord's Prayer begins with a focus on God, before getting to praying for our needs.**

*Do you think that is significant? If so, why?*

**The prayer begins by acknowledging that God is our Father.**

*Is it hard for you to think of God as your father? If so, what makes it a challenge?*

*Is it encouraging for you to think of God as your Father? If so, why?*

*What practical things could we do, when we begin praying, to focus more on the fact that God is our Father?*

**Jesus says that the second area of focus in our prayers should be a request that God make His holiness be more known.**

*Do you think Christians spend enough time thinking about the holiness of God?*

*Why do you think Jesus says we should ask God to help us see Him as He really is?*

**Jesus also says we should pray for His kingdom to come?**

*Do you ever think about Jesus actually coming back to earth?*

*What do you think life in "Jesus' kingdom" should look like until He comes back?*