

Sermon Discussion Questions

**Teach Us to Pray**

Matthew 6:7-13

November 13, 2016

1. Give yourself a grade for how you are doing in your prayer life (A, B, C, D, F) and explain why you give that grade.
  - a. Matthew 2:2 is at the beginning of this Sermon on the Mount. It says that Jesus was teaching them. Who taught you how to pray? What were some things you were taught about prayer?
  - b. Given what the sermon was on—did anything that Jeremy shared challenge the way you were taught about prayer? Discuss.
2. Romans 8:15 and Galatians 4:6 agree with how Jesus addressed God the Father in prayer (Mark 14:35-36). What gets in the way of seeing God that way when we pray to Him? How does this view of Him motivate you (or touch your heart), if any?
3. What does it mean to pray with eternity in mind? How might our prayers be different if we always had an eternal perspective?
4. The fourth step in praying in line with Jesus's teaching is to pray with dependency (Matthew 6:11-13). How can we pray *without* dependency? How can we be sure we are truly dependent on the Lord through prayer?
5. Can we pray "Your will be done" when it just might mean we go through hard times like Jesus was looking at in Mark 14:35-36?
  - a. Doesn't "Your will be done" seem to negate any request we might make in a prayer? How can we have confidence in our prayers—making our requests, and yet submit to God's will if it goes against our request?
    - i. How can we make sense of these passages (Matthew 21:22 and John 15:7) in light of God's will being done no matter what we pray for?
6. Have you ever considered fasting when you pray? Why or why not? Read Nehemiah 1:1-4; Joel 2:12-13; Acts 13:1-3; Acts 14:23 and see if you can see where fasting is used in relationship to prayer.