



STUDY 1: Our Father in heaven (Matthew 6:5-13, 7:7-11)

If you stopped someone on the street and asked them what they think of “prayer” what do you think they’d say? How would you define prayer?

CONTEXT – Where does it fit?

1. Have a brief scan Matthew chapter 5-7. What is the context in which Jesus teaches his disciples about prayer in Matthew 6 and 7?
2. Read Matthew 6:5-15. What is the immediate context for the Lord’s prayer from Matthew 6:5-8?

OBSERVATION – How is it communicated?

3. Re-read Matthew 6:9-13. How would you break it up into sections? What title would you give each section?

MEANING – What does it mean?

4. When you read “Our Father in heaven” what stands out to you? What is the significance of “our” rather than “my”?
5. Read Galatians 4:4-7. How would you explain the process of coming to have God as your Father from this passage? What does “adoption to sonship” mean?
6. Read Matthew 7:7-11. What does this tell us about God as our Father?

APPLICATION – How does it change us?

7. How does knowing that God is your Father make you feel?
8. If God our Father longs to give us good gifts, how should that shape the way we pray?
9. If God our Father is dependable and loves us no matter what, how should that shape the way we pray?

Spend some times praying like that – to God our Father.