



How to Pray: Relationships | Matthew 6:12
October 28, 2018

Tips and Tricks:

The sermon notes are designed to be used as a guide for discussion. Don't feel like you have to use every question. Some questions will take a while to work through and others will be over in a few seconds.

1. Don't teach the lesson. The sermon was just preached. Just ask the questions and let everyone else talk.
2. Let other people ask questions. It's OK to go "off topic" for a while. Sometimes those conversations are more interesting anyway!
3. Have fun. Don't forget to laugh and crack up. Relationships, not curriculum, are the heartbeat of our ministry. Remember: We have to build a relational bridge strong enough to hold the truth!

Agenda for Group Time

1. Ice Breaker - Lighthearted ice breaker question (10 minutes)
2. Discussion - Bible study, sharing and application. (25 Minutes)
3. Prayer - Pray together (5 minutes)
4. Planning - Remember to talk about what's coming up.

Warm up!

Who's been a source of encouragement and hope for you?

Where I've looked for hope:

- Hair Club for Men
- Facebook friends
- The Lottery
- Chicken soup
- Chocolate Pie
- Other: _____

Discussion!

Read Matthew 6:9-13

[9] *Pray then like this:*

*"Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.*

*[10] Your kingdom come,
your will be done,*

on earth as it is in heaven.

[11] Give us this day our daily bread,

***[12] and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.***

*[13] And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.*

How do you typically react to unfairness and injustice?

- Get really ticked.
- Awfullize.
- Write my congressman.
- Throw a pity party.
- Other: _____.

1. This prayer assumes we need forgiveness.

Question: Why is it difficult to talk about our own flaws?

- We'd rather talk about other people's flaws.
- We tend to think better about ourselves than we should.
- It hurts our feelings.
- OK, I'll admit it, I like to watch Wheel of Fortune every night at 6:30 but I don't see anything wrong with that! Please don't judge me.
- Other: _____

When was the last time you asked God for forgiveness?

2. This prayer assumes that God will forgive.

What happens when we deal with guilt in a less than healthy way?

- We never get down to the real issues.
- Only my psychologist wins.
- We avoid what could be a wake-up call from God.
- We feel even more guilty.
- Other: _____

What impresses you most about God's forgiveness expressed in 1 John 1:9?

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9 ESV)

- It's a promise I can bank on.
- I don't have to beat myself up to receive it.
- There are no limits on how bad or how often.
- I admit the wrongs of which I'm aware, and God takes care of it all.
- Other: _____

3. This prayer assumes that we can forgive others.

Question: How does God's forgiveness of us shape the way we treat others?

- It motivates us to forgive
- His forgiveness softens our hearts towards others
- We remember that we've wronged others and needed forgiveness.
- But I still can't stand Alabama. Is that wrong? What about Notre Dame? Can I still not like them?
- Other: _____

Question: Forgiveness is difficult. Is there anyone in your life that you are having a hard time forgiving? What do we do in this situation?

Work It Out!

One thing I'll do differently because of this sermon:
