



LIFEGROUPS

Series: *Godspeak*

Scripture: *Matthew 6:9-13*

Date: September 7-8, 2019

Message: *How to Hear From God*

—[LET'S START]—

This week, Pastor Dale began a new series on prayer. In his sermon he said, "I want to assure you that this series is not meant to make you feel ashamed or guilty about prayer! It is actually intended to be an inspirational and practical invitation to experience the power of prayer when you learn to pray the Jesus way!" Have you ever felt guilty about your prayer life? What are you hoping to gain from this series?

—[LET'S TALK]—

1. **GRATITUDE AND PRAYER:** What happened last week for which you are thankful? What challenges do you see in your life? Your family? The World? Thank God for the beautiful ways that He has been at work. Pray for the challenges that those in your group are currently facing.
2. Read Matthew 6:5-15.

The Lord's Prayer is actually part of The Sermon on the Mount. Take a look at this prayer in the broader context of this sermon. What does Jesus' teaching on prayer teach you about God? What does it teach you about people? What is most difficult for you as it relates to Jesus' prayer? What is most difficult about the teaching that surrounds the prayer? What is most comforting? How has Jesus' model for prayer been an encouragement to you?

3. Read Luke 11:1-13

This is the passage where the disciples ask Jesus to teach them to pray. What is similar between this prayer and the prayer in Matthew 6? What is different? What does this version teach us about God? What does it teach about us?

4. In his sermon, Pastor Dale said, "God speaks to us through his Word! In fact, any other way that God might choose to speak to us must always agree with His written word!" Read Hebrews 4:12 and 2 Timothy 3:16.

What do these verses teach us about God's Word? How have you seen the truth of these verses in your life? What do you think it means for Scripture to be "God-breathed?"

5. Pastor Dale demonstrated how He uses the Lord's Prayer as a model for praying through Scripture. What were your takeaways from His message?

Not in a Wooddale teaching based LifeGroup? Visit wooddale.org/LifeGroups/ to get involved!

—[LET'S ACT]—

This week, Pastor Dale challenged us to try his prayer method for seven days. He suggested using the first seven Psalms or starting in the gospel of Mark and reading as many verses as you want until you feel like you have heard enough from God to have a conversation with Him. Let the Spirit tell you when to stop. Let's try to do this over the next week and come back next time and share what God has taught us about prayer through the experience.

—[SERMON REVIEW]—

- Most Christians struggle with prayer. My hope is by the end of this series you begin looking forward to your conversational times with God.
- Even the disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray in Luke 11:1.
- Jesus taught His disciples to pray in what we know as The Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13).
- In the Lord's Prayer, Jesus reveals seven ways to talk to the Father:
 - Praise the Father.
 - Obey the Father.
 - Ask for the Father's provision.
 - Confess your sins to the Father.
 - Ask the Father to lead you away from temptation.
 - Ask the Father to deliver you from evil.
 - Ask the Father that you might have the privilege of glorifying Him.
- We often miss that the Lord's Prayer is not just a way to talk to God, it is also a way to listen to Him. God speaks to us primarily through His Word. Any other way that God might choose to speak to us must always agree with His written Word.
- Your belief and confidence in the veracity of God's Word will determine the power of your prayers.
- Passages that speak about how we should view the Word of God:
 - Hebrews 4:12
 - 2 Timothy 3:16
- Dale concluded his sermon by showing how he uses his prayer journal and The Lord's Prayer as a model for his personal prayer life:
 - Praise | Will | Provision | Confession | Surrender | Temptations | Evil | Glorify God

—[NOTES]—
