

# GROWN UP PRAYERS



## WHAT DO WE ASK FOR?

Pastor Kyle identified 3 needs Jesus encouraged us to ask for:

- Keep us alive.
- Keep us free.
- Keep us alert.

## Discussion Guide Wk. 2.

### READ OUTLOUD FOR A RECAP

#### WHAT JESUS SAYS TO ASK FOR:

- Our basic, daily needs.
- To be made aware of our dependence on him.
- Neither poverty nor riches, just *enough*. (Prov. 30:8-9)
- Ability to forgive other as we've been forgiven.

#### WHAT WE AREN'T TO ASK FOR:

- Tomorrow's needs.
- Wealth, so we have no need for God's provision.
- A clear conscience so we can feel better about ourselves.
- God to forgive us, if we haven't forgiven others.

## CONSIDER THIS

The Lord's Prayer is a template for approaching the uncreated Creator in prayer. It provides us with a framework for how to pray, but it is not a formula for prayer.

Jesus makes it clear that, for his followers, prayer isn't a cosmic wish list—it's a conversation that leads us to surrender.

- Religion promises that prayer is a necessary step in getting God to behave like you want him to.
- Relationship promises that prayer is an ongoing process of trusting God's will and surrendering our own.

## Q + A

### **Q: Have you received God's forgiveness?**

- Pastor Kyle talked a lot about forgiving others. It is hard to forgive others if we feel like we have to earn God's forgiveness ourselves.
- What is one area of your life where you have fully received God's forgiveness?
- Can you identify any areas where you haven't?

# DIG DEEPER

**Read Matthew 10: 38-39 and Matthew 16: 24-26 out loud.**

- In these passages there is an exchange Jesus refers to: *somehow those who lose their lives to follow Jesus are actually the ones that find it.*

**Pastor Kyle mentioned that surrendering our lives to Jesus often feels like losing, "We are scared to death of what God may ask or expect us to do."**

- What is something you are scared that Jesus might ask of you if you decided to lose your life for him?
- Where do you draw the line in what you'll give up and what you won't?
- What "cross" do you think he's asking you to pick up?

Read 1 Corinthians 3:8: Does God ask you for your life without giving you anything back?

# LET'S BE REAL

God isn't out to get your stuff or make life miserable for you. Instead, he wants you to know he will meet your basic needs and set you free from the debts you owe.

**Harboring bitterness against others actually short-circuits the things you want in your life.**

Why do you think it's easier to focus on the debt others owe than to thank God for the debt he's forgiven us?

CHOOSE.  
ACKNOWLEDGE.  
DECLARE.

# Let's Grow Up.

Whose kingdom are you building?

Pastor Kyle challenged us with these next steps:

1. **Choose** to begin every prayer time with an awareness of your dependence.
2. **Acknowledge** the person whom you have refused to forgive.
3. **Declare** that God's love is surrounding you and you want to receive it so you can give it.

## How to Prayerfully Prepare to Forgive Others

1. Remember *how much* you've been forgiven. *Read Matt. 18:21-35.*
2. Remember *how freeing* it is to forgive others. *Read Gen. 5:1.*
3. Ask God to help you be kind to other people, even those who are cruel and don't deserve it. *Read Eph. 4:32.*

*Prayer Exercise: Think of the person you are struggling to forgive and pray through Psalm 108:3-12 with them in mind. Every-time you come to the words "us" and "ours" include your name and theirs.*

*Ask God to help you forgive.*