

PRAY LIKE THIS week three

These questions are for your growth and to prepare for the conversation in your Growth Group. We encourage you to read through them, spend some time thinking about your responses and write down anything that could aid in your Group. We also encourage you dig deeper, research, look for supporting Scriptures, etc. We are excited for your growth relationally and spiritual. **We recommend the Bible versions of - ESV, NTL, NIV, NASB and The Message.

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Series Overview: People say, “Pray, don’t panic.” And I want to. But I don’t feel like know how. Or maybe I’m just not good at it. Calm isn’t easy for me to come by. Is it just me? I want to believe that prayer works; that it changes things; that it can make the world better; that it can make me better. But...how? People during the days of Jesus asked the same sort of questions. And he responded by teaching his followers to pray in a revolutionary way.

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//TALK

Ice Breaker - Take a moment and share your favorite COVID-19 meme...make someone smile.

Q1 – Can you think of a surprise that you were excited to drop on someone? What was it?

Q2 – The statement was made, “**Jesus was establishing a while new way of thinking about life and faith**” in reference to the Sermon on the Mount. What do you think? In light of that, why do you think he included the Lord’s Prayer in the middle of this sermon?

Q3 – Read **Matthew 6:9-13**— [Read in different translations] What stands out to you about “Your kingdom come...”? In your own words, what do you think Jesus is trying to teach here?

Q4 – Would you agree that the people were hoping Jesus had come to re-establish a kingdom they were familiar with or the kind of kingdom they wanted? Have you ever found yourself wanting the same things from Jesus?

Q5 – Read **Acts 1:6**— [Read in different translations] What stands out to you in this passage? Is there any wonder about why we still struggle to understand God’s Kingdom, especially when those who were there to experience it themselves still didn’t understand?

Q6 – Read **Matthew 13**— [Read in different translations] What stands out to you in these parables? In your own words, what do you think Jesus is trying to teach here?

Q7 – Think about this: **How does God change the world? He chooses to use you.** How can you live that out this week? Who can you invite to join you for Easter this year?

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//GO DEEPER

Check out some resources: Do some research on The Lord’s Prayer this week. Book: “A Layman Look at The Lord’s Prayer” by W. Phillip Keller. Read the parables in Matthew 13.

//THE POINT

Maybe God’s Kingdom is revealed through simple acts of faith, hope, and love every day.

//MEMORIZE

Matthew 6:9-13 NLT - 9 Pray like this: Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy.

10 May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. 11 Give us today the food we need, 12 and forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us. 13 And don’t let us yield to temptation, but rescue us from the evil one.

//PRAY

As you share prayer requests, take time to personally make requests known in an honest and safe environment. Pray for the needs of your group and if others are comfortable, encourage others to lead out in prayer as well as the group leader. Take a moment to pray for our church, the impact we can have on our community and that we will continue to follow God’s lead to move forward together. Pray through The Lord’s Prayer and think of people you can reach out to as a group to help keep the people of South Hills connected in community.