

Sermon Based Small Group Questions

"My God, My God Why Have You Forsaken Me?" March 22, 2020



In this unique interruption to our regular routines, many of us have been gifted with extra time and space for prayer. In small groups this week, in whatever format is feasible, please take time to pray for each other, our world and for more opportunities to usher in the Kingdom of God. *"Prayer is the act of seeing reality from God's point of view."* (Philip Yancey)

If you would like structure, you can feel free to use the below format based on Matthew 6:9-13. In the left column is the Lord's Prayer. On the right is a prayer to lead you (and your group) into personal/corporate prayer.

<i>Our Father who Art in Heaven, Hallowed be thy Name.</i>	Father we take time to reflect on your character and who you are. We now take this time to offer our words of adoration . <i>(Spend time praising God our Father in prayer)</i>
<i>Thy Kingdom Come</i>	Lord Jesus we pray for the various ways we can help bring your kingdom of love, shalom, hope, generosity, grace. Help us to people joined in your mission . <i>(Spend time prayer for specific ways that more of the kingdom of God would be evident in our world)</i>
<i>Thy Will be Done on Earth as it is in Heaven</i>	Creator of the Universe, we ask you to form our will to coalesce with your will. Help us to be people in submission to your purposes on earth. <i>(Spend time praying for ways to be joyful servants of the king)</i>
<i>Give Us this Day, our Daily Bread</i>	Bread of Life, we petition you for all we need for life. <i>(Spend time is prayer for the practical needs of people)</i>
<i>Forgive us our Debts as we Forgive our Debtors.</i>	Crucified and Risen Jesus, we now offer our confessions for the wrongs we've done and good we've failed to do. Grant us the compassion to forgive those who have done us wrong. <i>(Spend time in confession and allow God to soften your heart to forgive others.)</i>
<i>Lead us not into Temptation but Deliver us from Evil.</i>	Holy Sprit who indwells with us, grant us protection , strength and wisdom to resist and flee temptation & evil. We pray now for all who struggle. <i>(Spend time praying for God's light to shine in dark places)</i>
<i>For Thine is the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory, now and Forever.</i> <i>Amen</i>	Glorious Father, Son, and Holy Spirit we praise you. <i>(Return to Adoration to close your prayer)</i> <i>Amen</i>

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BLESS Rhythms Summary:

BLESS: This is the practice of blessing another person. It can be big or small (buying coffee, encouraging text/email, etc.).

Who have you blessed this week?

LISTEN: This is the practice of listening, both to God and to others. *How did you set time aside this week to be a listener?*

EAT: This is the practice of sharing food with people. This can happen in a home or in a coffee shop. *Who are you eating with/ inviting into your home?*

SPEAK: This is the practice of speaking our faith. It can happen through encouragement, story sharing, and evangelism.

How have you spoken your faith this week?

SABBATH: This is the practice of resting from work and taking time to rest and enjoy creation. *How are you practicing*

Sabbath this week?