

Lord, Teach us to Pray

Matthew 6.9

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Setting the right course, or getting off on the right foot is imperative for any meaningful journey. We need a good direction and we need a good beginning.

Two Points of Focus

- Relationship
- Recognition

Our Father

- Before we ask *what, when or how* we begin with *who*.
- Old Testament view of Father (Isaiah 64.8 , Jeremiah 31.9)
- Israel knows God as Father in a corporate sense.
- Jesus shifts the focus from cooperate to personal, overarching to intimate.
- Mark 14.3 – You can call my Dad your Dad.
- Prodigal son picture (Luke 11.20)

In heaven, holy is your name

- As good, kind, patience, loving as God is, he is also sovereign.
- Our Dad is above all things, unique and set apart.
- A balanced view of a good, loving yet holy God is important.
- Rom 6.15 God's love should bring us to a place of obedience

A mighty view of God

- Isaiah 6.1-4
- Revelation 4.2-ff

Questions

- How do you relate to God in understanding his character in balance?
- What aspect do you feel you may need to explore more?
- What does the “our” say to us? Why do you think Jesus uses the plural?
- What does beginning with “Father” do for our prayers/lives?
- What does “holy name” (name means character) mean for our prayers/lives?