

# SG Discussion Questions

for Personal Study and Small Groups 2/17/13

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## Matthew 6:5-15

**Purpose of SG:** to foster in its members the biblical values of worship (God), discipleship (church), and outreach (lost).

**2013 Annual Focus:** Drawing Near to the Good and Mighty King.

**Announcements:** (1) Are we participating with Entermissons baskets & food? (2) Does everyone understand the Study/Serve transition (9 months of Serve this time)?

### SG Discussion Questions:

*Focus: to instruct and challenge the church to pray using the Lord's Prayer as their guide*

Were you taught the Lord's Prayer as a child? Has it fallen into disuse for you? If so, why is that?

Read Matt. 6.5-8. What did Jesus' have against the prayers of the hypocrites and the pagans? How might we fall into those errors these days? Is Jesus against all public and lengthy prayers? How is Jesus teaching us to pray in these verses?

Read Matt. 6.9-15. In the first three requests, we are taught to pray for God's glory. Is this a regular part of your prayers? Why is that sometimes easy to omit? What benefit would come from our praying this way?

In the last requests the focus turns to our needs. Why do we sometimes forget to pray for our "daily bread"? Why do you think Jesus added the emphasis about God forgiving us as we forgive others? Can you be an authentic Christian and be unforgiving?

There is a decidedly corporate feel to this prayer (lots of ours and us's but no me's and mines). Why do so few Christians feel a need to commit to corporate prayer as a church body?

Discuss how you can let this prayer shape your prayers. Share ideas and then take a whack at it together.