

## Matthew 6:9-15

9 Pray then like this:

"Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name.

10 Your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.

11 Give us this day our daily bread,

12 and forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our debtors.

13 And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

14 For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, 15 but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

### Community Group Study 1 August 2010



#### Introduction

There is no special formula for prayer, although Jesus gives us a model for it in the Lord's Prayer. Prayer is conversation with God based on a relationship with God.

Like the very first words of the prayer, our prayers to God must be founded in our recognition and relationship to him as our Father. Perfect, holy fatherhood is in God's nature. We have to put away our misconceptions about God's character and personality in order to approach Him properly.

We desire His kingdom – a reality-changing kingdom that we weep and bury ourselves in labour for. We rely on Him to provide us with everything we need. As our Father, we do not wonder if we will have food tomorrow, or hoard and store as if God's provision might run out.

We ask for forgiveness so that we may approach Him better. We ask to be delivered from evil and not be led into temptation so that we may be always pure before Him and close to Him.

#### Discussion

- >>What does God's Fatherhood mean to us?
- >>What is the perfect father like?
- >>How does a Christian live if God is his daily provider?

#### Explanation

- >>How do we miss intimacy with God while we practice Christianity?
- >>Why is the Lord's Prayer recorded differently in different gospels?
- >>How do we show that we truly desire that God's kingdom come?

#### Application

- >>Consider how our attitudes to saving and investment reflect our depth of recognition of God as provider of our daily bread.
- >>Do something today (and every day) that ushers in God's kingdom.
- >>Forgive those who have trespassed against you or whom you feel anger against.