

CONVERSATION GUIDE

Middle-High School

DATE: 10/25/20

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 6:5-18; 7:7-11

LESSON: The Practice of Prayer

INTRO

This conversation guide exists to help parents interact with their middle and high school students. Our goal in having middle and high school students attend gatherings (or worship at home) with their parents is to help them transition toward being adults who are fully functioning members of the church. But most middle and high school students still need some translation and help connecting what they're learning to their lives. We want our sermons to be accessible, but they aren't specifically targeted toward the transitional teenage years.

- **Read Matthew 6:5-8.** What does Jesus teach us in these verses about what the point of prayer is and isn't?
- **Read Matthew 6:9-13.** Why is it revolutionary that Jesus teaches us to pray to God as our Father King?
 - **Read Matthew 7:7-11 and Psalm 103:19.** Is it generally hard or easy for you to believe these descriptions that God is both a good Father and powerful King? Why?
- Do you remember the three reasons we talked about in the sermon for why people might not pray? (1. We don't trust that God is a supreme and powerful King. 2. We don't trust that God is a good Father, or 3.) We don't make physical space, time, and room in our lives for prayer.
 - Which of these poke at your heart harder than the others? (Parents go first)
- **Reread Matthew 6:6.** How does Jesus tell us we should pray? (Have a set rhythm with a space and time where you regularly spend some undistracted time in prayer.)
 - Practically, what might this look like for you? This week, how can you practice prayer like this and start making it a habit?
- What are some of the things weighing on your heart this week? Let's take some time to pray about those things together right now.