

How We Change: Practicing the way of Jesus 'Prayer'

A survey of Jesus & Prayer in the Gospel of Matthew
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

The following questions are intended to use in discussion and application of the past week's sermon.

Listening

What part of the sermon was most helpful to you or challenged you to think and/or live differently? How will you apply this message to your life?

Engaging

Read Psalm 22. Come to a pause after verse 1 and just spend a moment recalling these as Jesus's last words on the cross. Then read up through the end of the Psalm. The range of emotions confessed in this Psalm shows raw lament and also confidence in ultimate victory. It was not a coincidence that Jesus quoted such a Psalm on the cross, because the suffering of the moment would not be the end of his weekend. How can this example develop our very real, very raw prayers in the midst of agony?

Applying

What are some examples of things that might keep a person from having a vulnerable, authentic prayer life?

Can you relate to times that prayer has accidentally slipped from being about communicating with God, and instead been more about others around us? How can we navigate good conviction without bad condemnation when we think about this?

Actually consider each of the below questions/prompts (if you weren't planning to already).

Praying

In light of this message and discussion:

How can we pray for each other?
Where do you feel challenged or convicted?
What can we praise God for?
How can we pray for our church?