

Words of the King: Matthew 6:7-15
Discussion Guide, December 6, 2020
Next week's text: Matthew 6:19-34

CHECK UP:

Memory Work Review: Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.

- Matthew 6:1

- What did you do with last week's text on "not doing your good deeds for the purpose of being seen"?

OPEN:

- How intentional are you in your prayer life? (considering both the content and regularity of your prayers)

READ and ASK: Matthew 6:7-15

- What are some right and wrongs of prayer that Jesus mentions in this passage?
 - o How have you seen people "babble" or have empty words in prayer?
- What does it teach us about prayer that God knows what we need before we even ask him?
- Does Jesus say this prayer is a "what to" or a "how to" prayer?
 - o What is the difference?
 - o What does it say about our intentionality in prayer?
- What insights or facts about God are revealed in this passage?
- What does it communicate to us that Jesus taught us to pray as "our Father" rather than "my Father"?
- How are we to approach God? (balancing calling God, Father, and as "hallowed")

- What does it mean for us to pray for God's kingdom to come and for God's will to be done?
 - o What does it communicate about our posture before God (not just in prayer but in life)?
- What should our attitude be toward life's necessities?
 - o Why is that especially difficult in our culture?
- What should be our attitude towards temptation?
- What does it say about our hearts if we refuse to forgive people who have wronged us?
 - o How does remembering God's mercy and grace compel us to forgive others?

APPLY:

- How do you need to be more intentional in your prayer life?
- NEXT STEP: What changes to you need to make in your prayer life this week?

Memory Work:

This, then, is how you should pray:
 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come, your will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.
 And lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from the evil one.'
 -Matthew 6:9-13