

Look Back: What changes did you make to avoid “imitation” relations this week?

Look Up:

Read [Matthew 6:5](#)

1. What specifically does Jesus tell us not to do when we pray? Why are doing these things a problem?

Read [Luke 18:9-13](#)

2. Who was Jesus talking to and what message was He sending to them?
3. How was the tax collector’s prayer different? How does this compare to your typical prayers?

Read [Matthew 6:6](#)

4. Why does Jesus tell us to pray privately “to your Father”? What does this say about the relationship we have with God?
5. Why does Jesus remind us that God “sees what is done in secret”? How easy is it for you to accept and apply this truth?

Read [Matthew 6:7](#), [Psalm 22:6](#) & [Numbers 11:11](#)

6. Why do people tend to use “many words” in their prayers? Why is this unnecessary?
7. How do Psalm 22:6 and Num 11:11 show how to “pray what you’ve got”?

Overall (Discovery Bible Study)

- What do these scriptures say about God?
- What do they say about people?
- How will I apply this to my life?

Look Ahead: What barriers stand between me and a flourishing prayer life?

What am I going to do about it?

Notes

Our relationship with our Father in Heaven is complicated and communicating with the creator of all things can be intimidating & confusing. Jesus saw that many of the people’s attempts to communicate and build a relationship with God were falling short or misguided, so Jesus offered us a simple framework that can be used any time we reach out to God. Jesus’s prayer reminds us that we have a loving Father who is as close as air, cares about us and wants what is best for us. All we need to do is pray what we’ve got.