

Read Daniel 9:15 – 19:

What things does Daniel pray for here? How do they reflect the same priorities as in the Lord's Prayer?

Read 1Timothy 2:1 – 7 and James 5:13 - 18:

What things do these passages encourage us to pray for?

From your general knowledge are there other things Paul encourages us to pray for?

How can our prayer life reflect more the priorities God teaches in Scripture?

Each week in your study in a group or alone it is important to conclude your time in prayer.

Study 2: **Prayer – A model for Prayer
Priorities in Prayer**
Sermon – 28th April 2024.

Reading: Matthew 6:5 - 15
Daniel 9:15 – 19
1Timothy 2:1 - 7
James 5:13 - 18

When we pray what do we pray for? Is just for things we need, problems we face?

So often in churches prayers can be just a list of people who need healing or issues for the church. But what does God want us to pray for? What should be the priorities in prayer?

As we look today at the prayer Jesus gave his disciples, it was not meant to be repeated rather it helps us to see priorities in prayer. Paul also in his letters give us things that we should pray for.

People at times complain about a prayer book, tying our prayers down. Yet, one of the most helpful things about the prayer book it encourages us to pray in a much wider way. To pray beyond people's immediate needs. So, there are prayers for the wider church, those in authority and for the wider community.

In our study today we will endeavour to discern what God would want us to pray for, so we have a well-rounded prayer life, praying prayers that are pleasing to God and make a difference.

Read Matthew 6:5 – 15, also Luke 11:1 - 4:

In Matthew during the sermon on the Mount, what does Jesus warn against in v5 - 8? What wrong understanding of prayer is behind these behaviours?

In Matthew and Luke why do you think Jesus teach the Lord's prayer?

In v9 the prayer begins "Our Father in heaven" how does this show the nature of our relationship with God?

Praying the second part of v9 and 10 we pray for God's plan of salvation. Does this prayer shape our prayers? What sort of specific things we can pray for God's kingdom grow? For God's name, character be revered?

How is Jesus the answer to this prayer?

When we pray for ourselves are we happy just to be supplied for the current day as shown in v11?

Prayer for forgiveness not just for things done but also things not done. Do you ask God to open your eyes to things that need forgiveness? Do you show forgiveness to others?

In Mark 14:38, Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane tells the disciples to watch and pray so they do not fall into temptation. In the last days there will be many temptations and the tricks of the evil one. Is this a prayer you pray, why is it also important to pray this prayer for the church?