

MasterClass

LESSONS FROM THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

WARM UP QUESTION

What is something you have a strong appetite for?

1 **Read Matthew 6:5-8.** How do you know that Jesus assumes His followers pray? How many times does He use the phrase “when you pray”? What examples does He give us for how not to pray and for how to pray? Talk about some modern-day examples of each.

2 Why do we pray, according to Jesus? What is one word you would use to describe your prayer life? What are the things that most distract you? Describe some ways you need to figuratively “shut the door” (verse 6) to block out those distractions. Come up with one step you can take to be more consistent in your prayer life and share it with your group.

3 **Read Matthew 6:9-13.** What do you notice right away about the instruction in verse 9? How does this prayer serve as an outline (How is it all-encompassing but not all-inclusive)? What do you notice about the way it flows from one thing to the next? How is it focused on God and His kingdom and not our own? How does the content of your own prayer life compare?

4 **Read Matthew 6:22-24.** Why is it so important to Jesus that His followers forgive others? It’s important to note that the kind of forgiveness from God here isn’t the forgiveness required for salvation. Rather, it’s the ongoing forgiveness of the sins of believers. What does forgiving others do for our own hearts and relationship with God? Is forgiveness of others a one-way street or two? To whom do you need to extend forgiveness or seek forgiveness from?

5 **Read Matthew 6:16-18.** What is the third and final discipline that Jesus addresses in chapter 6? What is fasting and what is it not (watch [this 7-minute video](#) from author and pastor John Mark Comer for more)? How are we to practice this discipline and how should we not, according to Jesus? What role has fasting played in your life?

RESPOND

What have you learned about God from His Word? How is He asking you to apply it to your life? When will you apply it?

Encourage group members to read Daily Bible Reading on the church app or have it delivered to their inbox daily. Subscribe at tpcc.org/dbr. Use your group chat to check in on thoughts about these throughout the week!