

**Our Goal:**

That you would encounter God in your everyday life.

**James 4:8 (ESV)** *Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.*

**Jesus tells us to pray like this...Not a formula, but a pattern.**

Notice: There is a wrong way to pray.

Prayer is wrong when your prayer is focused on people or self.

Prayer is wrong when you pray like the pagans do—they will be heard, and they babble on as if more words bring a greater effect.

**Main Scripture: Matthew 6:5–15 (ESV)****Unpacking prayer: Prayer changes our perspective:****1: "Our Father who is in Heaven..."**

- Jesus tells us that God is a Father.
- He is **OUR** Father. All believers have the same Father.

**John 1:11-12 (ESV)** <sup>11</sup> *He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God.*

**Ephesians 4:3-6 (ESV)** <sup>3</sup>...*eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup> There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—<sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.*

**2: "Hallowed be Your name..."**

- As we spend time focused on who He is, it changes our perspective of ourselves, the world, history, etc.

**Questions to Consider:**

1. What passage stands out to you as new or challenging?
2. What part of the sermon is making you rethink your view of prayer?
3. Do you have any perspectives that are being challenged, or that you need to change?
  - a) What steps are you going to take to reshape your understanding of who God is?
  - b) Share your plan with someone, and let them know how you are growing.
4. How will your understanding of who God is, based on what He has shown us through Scripture, change your relationship with Him?
  - a) How will it affect your relationships with others?
5. How are you going to use prayer this week to draw closer to God and better understand who He is?
  - a) You can use the below Personal Application steps to guide you.

**Personal Application: Read over Matthew 6:5-13 several times this week:**

**GET AWAY** - Where is a good place for you to pray? How do you need to cut out distractions?

**OFTEN** - What's the best time in the day for you to pray? How many days a week is your goal?

**PRAY** - Set aside 10 min. Talk to God. Be still & quiet for 1-2 min. Pray Scripture. Journal.