**The Prayer Series: wk 4 – Lord’s Prayer – Provision & people**

**Greatest privilege and most important thing a follower of Jesus can do**

**One of the most neglected spiritual tools we have.**

**Often misunderstood and misused - we can’t get this wrong. Our spiritual life - family - church - our nation - world depends on it!**

**Big Idea: Prayer is not necessarily something we do – it is more about someone we are with. It is about being and talking with God.**

**WHEN YOU PRAY - Remember**

**It is the conversation – 2 way – talking and listening.**

**Prayer is not just talking to God, but rather talking with God**

**Jesus then gives most famous prayer on the planet - the Lord’s Prayer.**

**Matthew 6:9 “This, then, is how you should pray: “‘Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, 10 your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. 11 Give us today our daily bread. 12 And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. 13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.’ *(For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.)* (It’s not an incantation – good luck – or a penance)**

 **The Lord’s prayer is less formula and more an outline**

**1. Praise “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name”**

**2. Purpose “your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven”**

**3. Provision**

* **Practical needs – “Give us today our daily bread”**
* **Spiritual needs – “And forgive us our sins”**
* **Relational needs – “as we also have forgiven our debtors”**

**4. Protection “lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one”**

**5. Praise “For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever”**

**We acknowledge the supremacy of God – our dependency on God – and the power of God.**

**This week a vital part of our prayer that can affect every area of our life.**

**Matthew 6:12 And forgive us our debts, (The easiest one to understand)**

**as we also have forgiven our debtors. (and the hardest to do.)**

**Today 2 areas with 2 speakers… Me and Sean**

**I am going to briefly discuss the first one.**

**Matthew 6:12 …forgive us our debts… (also – our sins, trespasses)**

**A few things stand out – before I pass this off to Sean**

1. **Sin is a debt (debt is the best understanding of this word for sin)**

**When you buy something you can’t pay for / take something that is not yours to take – a debt is incurred. Our debts / sins / are many**

**Debt to the listeners of Jesus – was an economic slavery (often selling out of family) - bound to master / Debt to us is spiritual slavery (selling out our relationships) – bound to sin**

1. **Jesus invites you to bring your debt!**

**The debt / the sin you are guilty of – bring it – lay at his feet.**

**Jesus on the cross shouted – PAID IN FULL**

**Often nailed on door – a declaration – Jesus became our debt and was nailed to a cross.**

**Colossians 2:13 ...and you, who were dead in your trespasses… God made alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.**

**Erased – paid in full – 1 John – confess vs**

**He does not sit down and work out a payment plan with us – he strikes a nail through it.**

1. **Nothing is out of reach for Jesus**

**Nothing is too ugly - No sin is beyond the grace of Jesus**

**You are not too far away (What about unforgiveable sin – what is it?)**

* **In relationship with God – maintains healthy relationship**

**How often – this is a daily prayer. Jesus Forgive me.**

* **Not in a relationship – begins a relationship (Ask right now)**
1. **What you have been given you can give**

**A freedom and a challenge of receiving God’s grace is the ability to give it. In other words – give the mercy you have been given.**

**If I gave you $20 and said give it away – do you have to give?**

**There are no unforgiving people in the kingdom. Then who can be saved? With God all things are possible. (Mark 10:27)**

**Our forgiveness is not payment – the cross is**

**For a follower of Jesus - Forgiveness is required, it is not an option.**

**Do – do not try – Yoda / Don’t ask for help to forgive – forgive.**

**The next part of this verse however, is a very real challenge and reminder…**

**Matt 6:12 And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.**

**SEAN DENNY -**

**We are going to take some time to pray:**

**12 And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.**

**Pray – God forgive me of my sin.**

**Pray – God is there anyone I need to forgive?**

**By your power, I choose to forgive as you have forgiven me.**

**Lords pray outline insert.**