



- Share about some of your earliest experiences or memories having to do with prayer.
 - What was the setting?
 - What types of things do you remember being prayed about?

Where did you learn how to pray? Did someone teach you or was it something you learned through observation and experience?

READ: Matthew 6:9-13

The way that we approach someone in conversation is usually based on our relationship with them. How does the opening of the 'model prayer' (that we just read) influence our approach to God in prayer?

How is approaching God as a Father either a blessing or a barrier to you?

God is a Father but Matthew 6:9 also points to his divinity *and* sovereignty when it says, "Our Father *in heaven*". How might our understanding of his Father's heart *and* his powerful sovereignty affect the way that we pray?

There are three 'us oriented' requests from Matthew 6:9-13 that Jesus says we should make when we pray:

1. Give us today our daily bread
2. Forgive us our debts
3. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one

While these aren't the only things scripture says we can pray for why do you think each of these are important?

What do these prayer requests (daily needs, sinful struggle, temptations/trials of life) say about who God is and the kind of relationship he desires to have with us?

Going back to some of your earliest experiences with prayer, do you recall hearing or being taught to regularly pray these things?

End your time in prayer, asking God to reveal his Father's heart for you and for the Holy Spirit to lead you in your regular times of prayer.