

Session



Personal Study Guide

Going Against the Flow

June 7, 2020

Introduction

? What do you know about prayer? What comes to mind when you hear the word prayer?

? Is prayer a regular part of your life? What helps or hinders your prayer life?

1. You Must Ask (Matthew 7:7)

? What kind of praying did Jesus command of His followers? What was implied about their approach from the description of prayer in this verse?

? What is a suitable petition for a child of God? For what should a Christian pray or not pray?

? Application: In your experience with prayer, have you approached God by trusting in the finished work of Jesus or in something else? Why is it important to first trust in Christ before being able to pray in this way?

2. You Will Be Answered (Matthew 7:8-11)

? Does this mean that if Christians pray in faith, then they can expect results? Will God always answer Christians? Why is it necessary to pray with faith?

? Does Christian faith force God to give His people what they ask for? Is God obligated to always say yes to the petition if a person has sufficient faith?

❓ Application: When you pray is your heart submitted to God's authority and ready to receive with joy whatever answer He gives? Or do you become angry if God doesn't answer your prayers as you think that He should?

3. Pray Also for Them (Matthew 7:12-14)

❓ Why is prayer helpful and effective as a way to serve others?

❓ What if someone doesn't desire prayer? What if they don't see the value in it? Should Christians still pray for them?

❓ Application: How have you seen prayer as a way to serve others and treat them the way you want to be treated? How have you been saved by the prayers of others?

Conclusion

❓ What does your prayer life reveal about your dependence upon God?

❓ What does Christ's work on the cross have to do with prayer? Why does it matter? How is prayer related to a Christian's relationship with God?

❓ How might praying for others provide opportunity for Christians to have gospel conversations with them?

Daily Readings

- Monday - Proverbs 3:5-6
- Tuesday - Psalm 20:7
- Wednesday - Isaiah 26:3

- Thursday - Psalm 56:4
- Friday - Hebrews 4:12
- Saturday - 2 Timothy 3:15-17