



LESSON 2 // RULE US

Big Idea: We will make little progress in other elements of prayer unless we have learned to sincerely and consistently pray the “rule me” prayer to our Heavenly Father: “your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven” (Matthew 6:10).

When the Lord rules us, we live in agreement with Him. We only want what He wants. This is the highest and best way to live, and the highest and best way to pray—to pray your way to surrender. The problem is that we live in an unruly world and battle an unruly self. Our unruly self needs a loving and powerful Ruler. The primary purpose of prayer is to increase our trust in God and to surrender our lives to Him and His rule more fully.

Matthew 6:9-13 (NIV) *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.”*

Start Talking:

- What do you think your life would look like if all of your significant relationships were surrendered to God?
- If you could change one thing about your life what would it be?

Start Thinking:

- This weekend Pastor Dale shared that we live in an unruly world and battle an unruly self. Would you describe yourself as unruly as it pertains to submitting to God’s will? Why? Is there anything that you do daily (or weekly) to help you grow in submission and surrender to God?
- **Read Ephesians 2:1-3 & Colossians 1:13.** In these verses, Paul describes the nature of the world and how we as Christians are to live. How can we live in a way that shows others that we have been rescued and that there is hope in Jesus?
- Why must we be aware of our rebellious tendencies if we are going to be effective in prayer?
- **Read Proverbs 14:12.** Share of a time in your life that you were living in a way that seemed “right” but turned out to be wrong. What did you learn about yourself in that time?
- Often when we pray, we are asking God to deliver us from someone (or something) but oftentimes, God is helping deliver us from our rebellion and pride. Why do we often miss this point in prayer? What would you say is the most challenging area of your life to surrender to God? Why?

Start Praying:

This week pray with your group in the area of surrender. Pray specifically for any areas that were mentioned during discussion time. Encourage your group members to continue praying through the week for one another and to check-in with at least one person from the group concerning this area.

Start Doing:

- If you haven’t yet, download the prayer guide and follow along with the prayer focus for the remainder of the series.
- Invite those in your group to prayerfully consider supporting outreach efforts at Church of the Redeemer. Support can be offered by volunteering, donating products, or offering financial support (for those that are able). For more information visit: <https://church-redeemer.org/ministries/outreach/covid-19>