

TEACH US TO PRAY...

PRAYERS THAT GET ANSWERS



LESSON 4 // GUIDE US

Big Idea: An unstated but real theme in the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) is our need for God's guidance—His leadership. Prayer is a key to receiving guidance from the Lord.

The Bible says that we are foolish if we rely only on ourselves or others around us for guidance (Proverbs 28:26). Instead, we need a good and wise guide to help us make wise decisions that will determine the direction and quality of our lives. Prayer opens our hearts to God's wisdom and guidance. It allows Him to show us what's best and lead us in the right pathway as we trust Him.

Proverbs 3:5, 6 (NLT) *Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. ⁶ Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.*

Start Talking:

- When on a trip or a car ride, do you prefer to be the driver or the passenger? Why? How do you respond when you are driving and lost?
- Who do you usually turn to when you need guidance for a major life decision? Why?

Start Thinking:

- Are you a long-term planner or someone that likes to figure things out "on the go"?
- Would you say that you mostly follow God's direction for your life or your own? Are there any parts of following God's leading that you find difficult? Which parts and why?
- **Read Psalm 23:1-3 & 32:8, Isaiah 42:16 & Proverbs 3:5-6.** This weekend Pastor Dale shared the God wants to lead us. Why can it be difficult to seek the Lord's direction and follow it once we've received it? How would you advise someone that is struggling with trusting God in a major decision?
- **Read James 1:5-8.** In these verses, James encourages us to ask God for wisdom and to expect to receive it from Him. He also warns us of asking God for wisdom, but not having faith that He will answer. Which group would you say you fall into most often? What steps can you take to grow in this area?
- Share of a time that God used someone to help direct you in your life. How did you know that it was godly wisdom you were receiving? What will you do to pursue God's wisdom and direction in your life more regularly?
- Prayer is a vital way to grow in our relationship with God and to receive His instruction. What is one step that you can take this week to purposefully spend more time in prayer?

Start Praying:

Before closing in prayer, ask group members to share what specific areas of their life they need God's wisdom for in this season. Once group members have shared, pray for one another and pray that your group's passion and hunger for prayer would grow. Also, pray that those that may be struggling to receive answers or remain faithful in prayer would be encouraged to press into their prayer time.

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>