

# HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME

## Sermon 1: *Our Father in heaven*

### Small group questions

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**Leaders:** choose some, but not all of the following questions. Email me with any questions. Mark.

1. Was there anything new for you from the message? Any questions?
2. Have you ever found yourself praying through the Lord's prayer only to realise that your heart and mind were not really engaged? Why do you think this happens? What is the danger of rattling off prayers without thinking? (See Matthew 6:7)

**Read Matthew 6:5-13.** We see in the opening line of the Lord's prayer:

#### **Prayer's context**

The privilege of prayer belongs to those who have come to God in repentance and trust, have become his children and can therefore call God 'Father'. (see John 1:10-13, 1 John 3:1-2 and Romans 8:15-16).

3. How does the fact that we are children approaching our Father, impact your understanding of prayer?
4. What does this mean for the non-Christian who sends up a quick prayer in a crisis?
5. What would you say to someone who shares with you they have asked a saint or Mary to pray for them?
6. Read Romans 8:31-32. Why do we sometimes doubt God is for us?

#### **Prayer's challenge**

7. Why do you think you don't pray as you ought?
8. What will help us to realise that we are totally dependent on him and therefore come to him more often in prayer?
9. What was suggested in the sermon are the really important things to be bringing before God in prayer?
10. What is our assurance that the Father is not only *willing* but well *able* to help?

#### **Prayer's potential**

11. How will prayer build intimacy and trust between you and our Father?
12. How will prayer change the way you see things?
13. How might prayer just change the world? (See Ephesians 3:20-21)
14. What have you already learnt or seen afresh from just the first line of the Lord's Prayer?

*Take some time to thank God for the awesome privilege of prayer and approaching him as a child to a loving, willing, able Father. Ask the Lord to deepen our understanding of prayer as we spend these weeks exploring the Lord's Prayer.*