



Pray like Jesus
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Luke 11:1 (NLT) - Once Jesus was in a certain place praying. As he finished, one of his disciples came to him and said, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples."

Matthew 6:5-8 (NLT) - "When you pray, don't be like the hypocrites who love to pray publicly on street corners and in the synagogues where everyone can see them. I tell you the truth, that is all the reward they will ever get. ⁶ But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you.

⁷ "When you pray, don't babble on and on as the Gentiles do. They think their prayers are answered merely by repeating their words again and again. ⁸ Don't be like them, for your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him!

Luke 11:2-4 (NLT) - Jesus said, "This is how you should pray:"

"Father, may your name be kept holy.

May your Kingdom come soon.

3 Give us each day the food we need,

4 and forgive us our sins,

as we forgive those who sin against us.

And don't let us yield to temptation."

Abba vs Avinu

Abba: my father, as a child calls their father.

Avinu: Our Father, exclusively used in a formal and religious setting.

"He transformed the Fatherhood of God from a theological doctrine into an intense and intimate experience; and he taught his disciples to pray with the same family intimacy." - G.B. Caird

We pray for alignment of relationship, not control of outcomes.

Study Guide.

Take a moment to think about the last few times you have prayed. What did you pray for? What did that prayer look and sound like? Was it formal or informal? Short or long? How much time did you spend talking versus listening?

This last Sunday we spoke about how praying like Jesus means that we pray for alignment of relationship, not control of outcomes. When we pray, we are to do so as children coming to their father, to share their heart yes, but also to ensure that they are aware and

So, think back to some of the last prayers you made. Imagine you were talking to a kind father figure as a child. What would that look like? How would it change that conversation? What might some of the major differences be?

Take a moment to read Matthew 26:36-46. This is Jesus in what seems to be one of his most intense moments of prayer. What stands out to you about how he prays? What are some key features of the way Jesus talks to the Father?

Jesus demonstrates in many ways that type of interactions that God wants with us, and they are undoubtedly ones that are full of familial love and care. So, take some time to pray with each other as children coming to their father with all the honesty, dependence, and trust that brings.