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.”

Luke 11:1

If prayer were a phone app, what feature would you most want it to have? (instant answers, reminders to pray, gratitude tracker, direct line to God…)

1. Read **Luke 11:1-4** The disciples witnessed miracles, healings, and powerful teaching from Jesus – what do you think they saw in Jesus praying that made them want to learn that above everything else?
    - What do you believe this says about how they observed Jesus' relationship with His Father?
    - If people observed your daily habits, what would they conclude about the importance of prayer in your life?

2. Jesus taught His followers to address God as “Father” why is this significant?
    - How does seeing God as a loving Father change the way we approach Him in prayer?
    - What are some misconceptions about God that may prevent people from praying to Him in confidence?
    - What is easiest for you to believe – that God is powerful – that God is loving – that God wants a relationship with you – why did you choose that point?
    - How do you think your prayer life would change if you constantly believed you were approaching a heavenly Father who delighted in you?

3. Read **Matthew 6:9-10.** The speaker said, “the entire emphasis of prayer is on who God is.” do you agree? Why or why not?
    - What is the difference in viewing prayer primarily as getting things from God, verses knowing Him more deeply?
    - How can prayer become self-centred without us even noticing?
    - When Jesus teaches us to pray, “Your kingdom come, Your will be done.” what practical implications does that have for our daily decisions?
    - Have you ever had a moment where you have asked God to bless or support what you want, without seeking His will first?

4. Read **Luke 11:5-13.** What do these parables teach us about God’s character?
    - The message stated, “Our prayers do not overcome God’s reluctance, they lay hold of His willing provision.” what does this mean in practical terms?
    - Why do many Christians struggle to believe God wants to give good gifts to His children?
    - What is the difference in biblical persistence in prayer, and repeatedly asking because we think we must persuade God to respond?
    - How would you encourage someone who is discouraged because God has not answered their prayers in the way they expected?

5. In 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18 we are called to pray without ceasing – what do you believe that looks like in a normal day for you?
    - What may prevent or distract you from maintaining an awareness of God throughout your day?
    - If your week was examined, would it reveal self-sufficiency, or dependence on God?
    - How can we all show greater dependence on God?

Closing Prayer: Encourage each person to pray as you close:

Thanksgiving – a simple short prayer they may pray thanking God for one thing.

Dependence – a short prayer for a situation where they need God’s wisdom, help or protection.

Growth – one practical thing they need help with to make prayer more a part of their day.