

DIVERGENT: *living the Sermon on the Mount*



Purpose: to live out the kingdom values of God found in the sermon like God's presence (light and love), redemptive deliverance, and restorative justice (mercy, peace and righteousness).

→ **Reflecting further into what we call The Lord's Prayer** - READ Matthew 6:1-15

❖ OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME

- This is Jesus speaking of God's holy name revealed in Exodus 3, 6, and 20.
- Four passages in Isaiah (9:2-7, 45:9-17, 63:15-19, 64:7-9) refer to God as Father; they also speak of God in heaven and of God's name.
- Knowing God's name is important, but praying "Hallowed by your name," recalls God's holiness and faithfulness.
- It again summons us to Exodus 3. Four times in this one chapter God tells Moses, "I will be with you," or "I will deliver you from the oppression of the Egyptians."
- So God's name means, "I will be present, I will deliver you, and I will be faithful to my covenant with you."

❖ YOUR KINGDOM COME

- Micah encouraged us on Sunday that when we pray, 'your kingdom come', to think about the Beatitudes as an executive summary of what it means.
- The beatitudes celebrate participation in the coming reign of God: we will be comforted by God, inherit the earth, be filled with restorative justice, receive God's compassion, see God, be called children of God, and have great reward with God. All of these things highlight the coming of God's kingdom.

❖ YOUR WILL BE DONE ON EARTH AS IN HEAVEN

- Jesus gives us six specific, transformative initiatives in Matt. 5:17-48 to illustrate what this line in the prayer means
- Go back and read each teaching in chapter five. How can you purposely live these out and thus actively participate in God's coming reign?

❖ GIVE US TODAY OUR DAILY BREAD

- The next four lines in the prayer are about God bringing his deliverance to us.
- This specific petition has roots in Exodus 16 (God giving the people manna).
- A prayer for daily bread = a prayer for the basic needs of life = trust God.

❖ FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS, AS WE ALSO FORGIVE OUR DEBTORS

- Forgiveness involves much, but the word 'our' is huge in this line. Think about it. Verse 14-15 are strong enough motivation to live this out.

❖ LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION, BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL

- How does Jesus' petition in this prayer lead us away from our own white-knuckled struggle with temptations?