

## GROWTH GROUP DISCUSSION

### CONNECT

What has been the most frustrating or fulfilling thing about prayer for you?

### LEARN & APPLY

Studies show that nearly all people everywhere pray, even with wildly different beliefs about God. Why do you think that is?

Read Matthew 6:5-15 and discuss these questions:

- In verse 5 Jesus warns us not to pray fancy prayers to impress others. Do you struggle more with the temptation to impress others or the fear that your prayers aren't impressive enough? Why?
- What does Jesus say about how long our prayers need to be?
- Find all the times that Jesus refers to God as Father in this passage. What kind of Father does Jesus describe here?
- In verses 9-13, Jesus gives his disciples a model to pray. Based on this prayer, what are the priorities our heavenly Father wants us to pray for?
- What does this description of our heavenly Father say about how we relate to God in prayer?

What's the biggest challenge you face in learning to pray? How can your group help each other in these challenges?

### PRAY

Use Jesus' words as your own prayer today. Pray Matthew 5:9-13 out loud together. If there are children in your group, invite them to join you.