

Reading Tracks

TRACK ONE

Follow along with basics of the story in a short selection of readings this week..

Monday: Matthew 6: 9-13

Tuesday: Proverbs 30:7-9

Wed: Ex 21:23-25, Mt 5:38-39

Thursday: Isaiah 53:4-6

Friday: Luke 11:1-13

Saturday: Colossians 1:3-14

TRACK TWO

Get a little bigger perspective by reading assigned sections from *The Story* © 2011 by Zondervan.

Read page 341 this week.

TRACK THREE

Get the whole story by reading through most of the Bible in longer sections.

In your Bible, read Luke 14-18 this week.

This Week's Scripture Memory Verse

"This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.'" Matthew 6:9 NIV

Next Week in Worship

Next Week's Message: *A Life of Real Discipleship*

Next Week's Readings: John 15, Luke 9:23-25, Luke 9:57-62

What does it look like to really follow Jesus with your life? To be a disciple is to be a follower – a student learner. What does this mean for us today?



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Group Discussion

Connect

When did you first learn the Lord's Prayer? Do you remember who taught it to you?

Did you understand what it meant, or that Jesus taught it?

Learn

Read **Matthew 6: 9-13**

Andrew Root said in our modern culture belonging seems to be "until further notice". How does Jesus teaching us to address God as "Our Father in heaven" say to our questions of belonging? What does this say about "whose" we are?

When we pray "your kingdom come on earth as in heaven" what are we praying for God to do in our own lives?

Read **Proverbs 30: 7-9** Why do you think Jesus taught us to pray for God to give us 'daily bread'?

Read Matthew 6: 12-14. This passage is probably the hardest for most people in the Lord's prayer. What is the biggest challenge you have with forgiveness?

Discuss the definition of Forgiveness given in the sermon: "Forgiveness is giving up your right to punish". How does this address the words of the law in **Exodus 21:23-25** "An eye for an eye"?

How does it address Jesus' words just a few passages earlier in **Matthew 5:38-39**?

Jesus came to take the punishment for our sin, so that we could be set free for eternal life. When we give up our right to punish, what are we saying about Jesus?

Apply

Forgiveness brings freedom, but it is often a process for many people.

If you know there is a someone you need to forgive, spend some time praying about them today, and ask God for the ability to give up your right to punish into his hands.

If you can't think of any unforgiveness in your life, spend some time today asking the Holy Spirit to show you

Pray

When we pray for God to lead us not into temptation, and deliver us from evil, we are praying a very individual kind of prayer.

Although whole communities can be lead into temptation and evil, most of the time, those temptations start small, and they are different for each person.

What things do you particularly need your heart guarded against? In prayer today, confess to God what causes you to get 'derailed' from him, and ask him for strength to repent.