

**BIG TRUTH: DISCIPLES PRAY INTENTIONALLY**

Philippians 4:6; James 5:16; Mark 11:24; James 5:18; Matthew 26:41

**BIBLE VERSE: MATTHEW 6:9**

*“Pray then like this: ‘Our Father in heaven, hallowed by your name.’”*

**BIG IDEAS**

- Prayer is about the pursuit of God, not the approval of others.
- Prayer is meant to align our hearts with God’s purposes.
- Prayer is meant to center our personal needs within our need for God Himself.

**BIBLE PASSAGE: MATTHEW 6:5-15**

**TRANSFORM - LIVING IN PURSUIT**

In High School, the Transform Year is an exploration of what it looks like to have transformed influence as we seek to live for a Kingdom that is greater than our own. First, we recognize that we will never be transformed if we are not Living for Jesus. To do this, we must first know who Jesus is by looking at who He says He is (John 8:58), and then look at what the Bible says about how in Him, we live by faith (James 1:6). Next, we recognize that to have transformed influence means that we must live as disciples in pursuit of Christ and His Kingdom over ourselves and our own kingdoms.

**SERIES AIMS**



**Every student should know that...**

- Jesus is the only source of life
- God’s Word is authoritative and applicable for all of life
- To follow Jesus is to pursue a life of sacrifice and surrender



**Every student should feel...**

- Thankful for the triune God who is worthy
- Convicted of how deception has led them to disobedience
- Responsible to use their influence to live for Jesus alone



**Every student should strive to...**

- Read through the gospel of John
- Memorize the Bible verse each week
- Implement regular rhythms of prayer and fasting throughout the semester



**Every student should want to...**

- Pursue obedience even when faith is a struggle
- Grow in living in step with the Holy Spirit
- Live their lives to glorify God the Father

**FAMILY WORKOUT**

This week we will ponder how to discuss prayer with our son or daughter. We will pray with them to align their hearts with God’s purposes and we will lead them to practice praying more consistently and intentionally.



**Read the Scripture and answer these questions to help your son or daughter better understand this passage: Matthew 6:5-15**

- What does it mean to be a hypocrite? What are some examples of hypocrites? How does seeking the approval of man lead us to hypocrisy?
- What does Jesus mean when He tells His disciples that they should pray in secret? Why is it important for us to pray in secret?
- What are “empty phrases”? How do we often fall prey to offering up “empty phrases” in our prayers? How can we stop doing this?
- Why is it important to ask God for our daily needs?
- Why does Jesus teach His disciples to ask for help in overcoming temptation and evil?

**Read and meditate on Matthew 6:5-15 this week. Use these questions to guide your meditation:**

- Ponder how you can discuss with your son or daughter what it looks like to pray in secret. How can you model praying for the approval of God and not man to your son or daughter?
- Consider how you can help your son or daughter align their hearts with God’s purposes in their prayer life. How can you teach them to pray in a way that transforms their heart’s desires to match God’s?
- How can you help your son or daughter pray intentionally to know God?



**Pray with your son or daughter this week.**

- Pray that they would desire to know God and that they would seek Him in their own prayer life.
- Meet with your student to pray together this week. As you pray, model praying to God and doing so in a way that doesn’t use “empty phrases.”



**Memorize Matthew 6:9 with your son or daughter.**

- Write the verse somewhere visible in your house. Create a competition to see who can learn it first. Reward the person who learns it the fastest.
- Discuss with your son or daughter some ways you disciplined yourself to create a consistent and intentional prayer life. Discuss how you removed certain things from your life to create room for prayer and the effects this had on your relationship with God.
- Meet with your student to discuss how he or she can pray with greater intention. Help them create a list of things to pray for and commit to help them pray with greater intention each week.