



unstuck

TEACH ME TO PRAY

WEEK 5: GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

Welcome to the final small group guide for the **UNSTUCK: Teach Me to Pray** series. This guide is based on the sermon from Week 5 of the Unstuck series. **If you were unable to watch the sermon**, please check it out online at <https://www.firstdecalur.org/sermons/>

This series is all about growing in our prayer life. Of course, we each know that prayer is supposed to be the ultimate expression of our personal relationship with God. In reality, however, prayer often feels like something we don't do enough, don't do well, don't know how to do, or "D," all of the above.

For many of us, prayer can feel more like a production or a problem to solve than the personal and practical connection to God prayer is supposed to provide.

In this series, we've learned just how accessible, practical, and powerful prayer can be in our lives. We've set aside the aethereal and abstract to provide practical tools on how we can connect closely with God in the midst of a fragmented and distracted world.



START

- ▶ Last week we ended by sharing at least one thing you were going to ask God for over the past week. How did that go? What did you experience? How did you see God answer your prayers? Either way, how are you continuing to **ask** and **trust** God?
- ▶ As we have talked about many times throughout this series, it is normal to have questions and even confusion regarding prayer. As you begin today, share the questions and concerns you still have regarding prayer. Also, share how this series has helped you better understand and engage in prayer.

Now that you are warmed up, let's dive in.



HOW DO WE TALK TO GOD?

As Pastor Wayne said, this prayer business is simple, but it's also hard and at times we can feel lost. Part of the reason we feel lost is the language we use when we pray. We know who needs prayer and who we are praying to, but there are plenty of times we are left wondering what we should say.

- ▶ When have you found it challenging to pray? When have you found it difficult to find the right words to pray?
- ▶ How can prayer be both simple and complex. What contributes to prayer's complexity for you?
- ▶ How do you go about praying when you aren't sure what to say?



READ MATTHEW 6:7-13

Of course, this is the Lord's Prayer. We use it regularly at church. It's the prompt language, the cue card for praying when we don't know what to pray. This weekend, Pastor Wayne focused on the phrases "your kingdom come, your will be done." But, how do we pray for God's Kingdom and his will? Pastor Wayne said that we make our desires reflective of God's best will for our lives. We acknowledge that God knows what is in our best interest and the best interest of our families. Then, we invite him to shape us into what is best.

- ▶ As you read Jesus' words in this passage, what words or phrases jump out to you? Why do you believe God drew your attention to those words or phrases? What does that mean for your life today?
- ▶ What does it mean to trust in God's best interest for our lives? Practically speaking, how do we invite God to shape us into what is best?
- ▶ As you think back on this series, what has been your biggest takeaway and what has been your greatest challenge?

As you close your time today, please take time to pray for one another and ask God to help you trust him for what is best.