

Bethany Bible Church
October 8, 2017
Guest Teacher | Tom Shrader

1st Things First: The Disciples' Prayer Matthew 6:13

In the Lord's Prayer, Jesus taught us *how* to pray. He did not give us a rote prayer.

We pray because God cares for us and can do something for us.

There are no singular pronouns in the Lord's Prayer - the focus is on God and others.

God continually reminds us that we are dependent on Him.

God does not lead us into temptation (see James 1:13).

Growing in godliness requires going through trials.

When the trials come, God will strengthen us.

Questions for Discussion and Further Reflection

1. Why is *context* vital in properly understanding any passage of Scripture?
2. Why is it important to understand that the Lord's Prayer was taught to be a *pattern* of prayer rather than a rote prayer to recite?
3. How does the Lord's Prayer encourage more dependence on God?
4. Why does God use trials to help us grow in godliness?
5. Tom warns us that as we get older, the temptation to waste time becomes stronger. The antidote to this is *specificity*. What specific date and *time* will you engage in a healthy spiritual practice this week?

