Prayer – Women's Bible Study 4.29.20

Review:

What is prayer?

Why should we pray?

- > Commanded
- > Expected
- > Essential ministry of Christ's
- > Proclaims we serve the One True God and ultimately glorifies Him

Who are we praying to? Examined the participation of God the Father, Son & Holy Spirit in Prayer

This evening and the remaining weeks we will begin to answer the question "**How** then should we pray?" "This then is how you should pray. Our Father in heaven, hallowed by your name." Matthew 6:9

Jesus opens the model prayer with **Adoration**. **What** is adoration? How would you define adoration?

Why the "why" is important?

"For by Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers of authorities; all things were created by Him and <u>for Him</u>." Colossians 1:16

"...I consider everything loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord...<u>I want to</u> <u>know Christ</u> and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of His sharing in His sufferings <u>become like</u> <u>Him</u> in His death and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead." Philippians 3:7 &10-11

"True prayer is the trading of the heart with God." Charles Spurgeon

Our goal in learning more about prayer is so we may look more like Christ.

"Praise the Lord O my soul; all my inmost being praise His holy name." Psalm 103:1

Christ declares three adorations of God the Father in the model prayer.

- "Our Father" His faithfulness demonstrated through His works
 > Exodus 15:1-13
 > 1 Samuel 2:1-2
- "Who art in Heaven" He is Worthy of our complete adoration
 > Revelation 4:2, 6-11
 - > Revelation 4:2, 6-11
 - > Revelation 5:6-14
- 3. "Hallowed be thy Name" His Name would be glorified
 - a. Recognizing everything is for His Glory
 - ...thy kingdom come (for your glory)
 - ...thy will be done (for your glory)
 - ...our provision (for your glory)
 - ...our forgiveness (for your glory)
 - ...our deliverance (for your glory)
 - "The great designs of God are first and mainly about God." John Piper < Philippians 2:5-11>
 - b. Grow in knowing and understanding His Character Psalm 103:1-5

How we can incorporate "adoration" into our prayers.

- 1. Pray scriptures that praise His name & works (Psalm 40, 66, 89, 103, 145 & 147)
- 2. Remember and praise God's faithfulness and work in your own life
- 3. Learn God's character & names through His Word (Google search can be very helpful!)
- 4. List the ABC's of God's character & attributes
- 5. Ask that you would grow in understanding of his worthiness
- 6. Ask that you would in all ways seek to "glorify His name" (that His name would be hallowed)

Discussion Questions (10 minutes)

What have you learned about prayer so far that has challenged/encouraged you? Share with your group some of the attributes of God you adore.

What has been your experience with adoration in your prayer life?

How will you incorporate what you have learned this evening into your prayer life?

Pray Together (5-10 minutes)

Spend some time in adoration through prayer together allowing everyone to pray. Try utilizing some of the practical tips above.