



Week 5: Our Power

Walking the narrow way of Jesus isn't about skill, effort, or grit. Jesus doesn't expect us to figure it out on our own. Instead, He invites us to meet with Him in prayer and receive power to walk it out every day. Prayer isn't a transaction to get something from God—it's an interaction with God where we're reminded that His presence is the reward, and it's more than enough.

Discussion Questions:

1. **Read Matthew 6:5-13.** Jesus said, "When you pray..." If someone were to get a window into your prayer life, would they conclude that it's optional or essential? Explain.
2. Jesus calls us to pray in secret. Why do you think private prayer is so important for a public faith? What helps you create space for that in your own life?
3. Jesus invites us to call God "Father." How does that shape the way you approach Him in prayer? If the word *father* is difficult for you, what helps you trust that God is a good one?
4. "Give us today our daily bread" is about trusting God with today's needs. What does daily dependence look like for you right now—physically, emotionally, or spiritually?
5. Shawn said, "Following Jesus isn't about skill, effort, or grit—it's about power beyond ourselves that comes from the quiet place of prayer." What does it look like to rely on God's power instead of your own? How have you experienced that in a specific moment?
6. Prayer isn't just about getting something from God—it's about being with Him. The "reward" is His presence. What step can you take this week to begin making prayer an essential part of your life in order to experience more of God's presence?
7. Take some time to pray through the Lord's prayer together, outlined below.

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.”

Take a moment to praise God for who He is—your Father, your Creator, your Provider, your Redeemer. Thank Him for something specific about His character that's meaningful to you right now.

(pause 30–45 seconds)

“Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”

Surrender your plans, desires, or worries to God. Ask for His will to be done in your life, your family, and our church. Pray that His Kingdom would break through in your relationships where you live, work, and play.

“Give us today our daily bread.”

Ask God to meet your needs for today—physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Pray for someone else in your group or community who needs His provision right now.

“Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.”

Quietly confess anything you need to bring before God. Then ask the Spirit to show you if there's someone you need to forgive. Pray for grace to extend the same mercy you've received.

“And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.”

Ask God to give you strength and discernment this week. Pray for protection over your heart, mind, and relationships. Thank Him that His power is greater than anything that comes against you.