

# Growth Group Questions

## Getting to Know Each Other

The Lord's Prayer is perhaps the best-known prayer in the whole Christian faith. Share with the group your memories of how and when you learned this prayer and how you use it today.

## Into the Word

- Compare the “shorter version” of the Lord’s Prayer Jesus teaches here with the longer version recorded in Matthew 6:9-13. Note the parts that are different or missing. To whom did Jesus teach this prayer in Matthew 6?
- Can you think of some of the other times the Gospels record Jesus praying? What are some other things he prayed for or situations in which he prayed?
- The parable Jesus shares in verses 5-8 could be called the parable of the “annoying friend.” What is Jesus actually teaching us here? What is the difference between faithful, persistent prayer and sinful insistent prayer?
- How does knowing God’s perfect wisdom help us trust in the gifts he gives rather than insisting on the gifts we want?

## Into my Life

- Can you think of some of the other times the Gospels record Jesus praying? What are some other things he prayer for or situations in which he prayer?
- How do the differences between Matthew 6 and Luke 11 show the words we use in prayer matter less than the thoughts behind those words? How does that impact our prayer life?
- Do you remember a time when God answered your prayer in a different way than you asked, but later you realized his way was better?
- If you have time listen to Garth Brooks’ song *Unanswered Prayers* for an example of God’s wisdom in answering prayer.

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