JESUS AT THE CENTER
OF PRAYER

Message 1 Bryan Jones October 15, 2023

Proximity

Outline

"... Our Father in heaven, may Your name be kept holy."

Matthew 6:9a (NLT)

A. Introduction (Matthew 6:9a)

B. God the Father...

1. _____ more than you know. (Psalm 22:1; Matthew 27:46) 2. _____ than you think.

(Matthew 6:26)

(Psalm 8:3)

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(Psalm 139:7-10; 2 Corinthians 12:2)

3. _____those He loves.

(Isaiah 53:5)

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Answers: B.1. Cares 2. Closer, Air, Universe, Highest of Heavens 3. Corrects, Punishment, Discipline, Consequences

Resource Information: Scripture quotations marked (NLT) are taken from the *Holy Bible*, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, a Division of Tyndale House Ministries, Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved. C/R refers to a 'cross reference.' Today's outline and discussion guide are available through the Brookwood Church app.

Digging Deeper – Week 1 Proximity

Use this guide by yourself or with friends to pursue a deeper relationship with Jesus. To connect with others, visit <u>brookwoodchurch.org/groups</u>.

Focus

This week our focus is on...

"Our Father in heaven, ... " Matthew 6:9a (NLT)

Open

What words would you use to describe your prayer life?

Pray

Pause for a few minutes to quiet your heart and mind. Then ask God for insight and direction as you study and reflect on this week's lesson.

Connect

Watch this week's video*, then use the following questions for reflection and conversation. Consider these Scriptures as you study and reflect: Psalm 46; John 17:1-5; James 4:8.

- 1. What stood out to you from the video? Did anything specific catch your attention?
- 2. What words or phrases come to mind when you think of a good father?
- 3. In what ways have you experienced God as Father? Share examples.
- 4. When have you known the Father's delight?
- 5. What happens when we lose focus on God? Share an example from your life and what happened.
- 6. Describe a time you experienced the Father's discipline. How did you respond to His correction?
- 7. If God were to lean in, look you in the eyes and speak, what would you want Him to say?
- 8. How do you cultivate intimacy with God?
- 9. Why do you think understanding God being our Father and our adoption as sons and daughters (Galatians 4:1-7) is vital to the *health* of our prayer life?

- 10. How has your relationship with your earthly father helped or hindered your view of God as Father? Describe.
- 11. Where in your life do you feel fatherless?
- 12. What do you need to bring to the Father this week? Share this with others and pray together.

Guided Prayer

Scripture tells us God will never leave us or forsake us. Focus on the proximity of God. Ask God to help you feel His presence and keep you focused on Him throughout the week.

Daily Devotional

Spend time with God each day with the Daily Devotional. Available on the App. Booklets are available with the Receptionist or at the Information Desk.

Memory Verse

"Pray like this: Our Father in heaven, may Your name be kept holy."

Matthew 6:9 (NLT)

Daily Reading

Day 1: Luke 12:32 Day 2: Psalm 103:11-14 Day 3: Matthew 7:9-11 Day 4: Psalm 68:5 Day 5: Galatians 4:6-7 Day 6: 1 Corinthians 8:6 Day 7: Proverbs 3:9-12

Pray for Next Sunday

- Pray that Brookwood is a church with Jesus at the center.
- Pray that people feel the proximity of God.
- Pray that people connect in a group that challenges them to grow their faith.

* Video resources can be found with each Message by visiting **brookwoodchurch.org/media**.



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