

Women's Bible Study  
***The Heart's Cry to a Loving Father: Part 2 - Matthew 6:11-15***  
March 3, 2010  
*Lecture by Gretchen Steer*

Intensive Study Questions

**Key verse:** "For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you." (Matthew 6:14)

Remember to provide biblical references with your answers, especially when you are drawing a principle from scripture.

1. Why is the Lord's Prayer so brief? How can we pray using this model and at the same time be obedient to the command to "Pray without ceasing." (1 Thess. 5:17). Look at the parallel passage in Luke 11:1-5. Why did Jesus provide us with this prayer?
2. What does "our daily bread" consist of? How does God meet these needs? Why might God not meet some of our daily needs? (Hint: see Deut. 8:1-3) Look at Jesus' answer to Satan when he was tempted (Luke 4:4). What else might we need each day beyond our physical requirements for life?
3. Forgiveness is a very difficult action for many of us. This prayer tells us to pray "Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors." (v. 12). Look at Matthew 18:21-35 for an explanation of why we must forgive others if we expect to be forgiven by God. Find two other passages on forgiveness in the N.T. Do these also connect our willingness to forgive with our ability to receive grace from God? Does this mean a person cannot receive salvation (which involves forgiveness of one's sins) unless they first have forgiven others? Why or why not?
4. Why would we say to God "lead us not into temptation"? Does God ever tempt us? How might you rephrase that? Name some ways in which God protects us from Satan. Look again at the passage about Jesus' temptation (Luke 4:1-12). How did Jesus protect himself from Satan? Now look at 1 Peter 5:8-9. What advice does Peter give about protecting ourselves from Satan?
5. As part of your preparation for these two weeks on the Lord's Prayer, remember to pray this pray each day. Consider how your understanding of it changes as you pray it thoughtfully each day. What have you learned?

