



## **“Driving Reign”**

### **Matthew 6**

### **Small Group Plan**

In his classic book, ***With Christ in the School of Prayer***, Andrew Murray wrote:

*While we ordinarily first bring our own needs to God in prayer, and then think of what belongs to God and His interests, the Master reverses the order. First, Thy name, Thy kingdom, Thy will; then, give us, forgive us, lead us, deliver us. The lesson is of more importance than we think. In true worship the Father must be first, must be all. The sooner I learn to forget myself in the desire that He may be glorified, the richer will the blessing be that prayer will bring to myself. No one ever loses by what he sacrifices for the Father.*

### **OPEN IT / INTRODUCE IT ...**

- Who taught you to pray? How did they do it?
- Is the Lord’s Prayer an example, a template or a liturgy? Explain.

### **LOOK AT IT / STUDY IT ...**

#### **Matthew 6:9-13**

<sup>9</sup> This, then, is how you should pray: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, <sup>10</sup> your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. <sup>11</sup> Give us today our daily bread. <sup>12</sup> Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. <sup>13</sup> And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one.”

- What motivated the disciples to ask Jesus to teach them to pray?
- How does it strike you to learn that this is the only documented story of the disciples asking Jesus to teach them a lesson?
- How does this short prayer (52 words) challenge the prayers you grew up hearing?

— **A CALM TO LIVE IN** —

**Matthew 6:9**

*“Hallowed by your name.”*

- How can an honest reflection on God’s holiness purify, reorient and create a calm life?
- Describe the strength of private prayer?
- Does Jesus offer this phrase as a liturgical statement to be repeated or as an eternal truth to reflect upon? Explain the difference.

— **A COMMUNITY TO LIVE WITH** —

**Matthew 6:9-13**

*“OUR Father ... give US ... forgive US ... lead US ... deliver US.”*

- How does God’s highly personal **calm** naturally lead to **community**?
- Describe the power of prayer in **community**, when “two or three” gather in Jesus’ name (cf. Matthew 18:20).
- What is the danger of public prayer?

— **A CAUSE TO LIVE FOR** —

**Matthew 6:10**

*“Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”*

- How does God use His Word and His people sharpen and clarify our sense of His mission and His **cause**?
- Why do you think Robert Law wrote ...?

*Prayer is a mighty instrument,  
not for getting man’s will done in heaven,  
but for getting God’s will done in earth.*

- Which part of God’s **cause** is the clearest and easiest for you to follow?
- Which part of God’s **cause** is the most difficult for you to understand or live by? Explain.

**USE IT / APPLY IT ...**

- In which direction does your life lean ... towards **calm** or **chaos**? Explain.
- What seems to be the driving force in the lives you have known to be **calm**?
- In which causes have you observed God at work in our community?
- Calm / Community / Cause — Up / In / Out.  
How does the Lord’s Prayer train and equip us to pursue our congregational vision, “*Passion for God, Compassion for People*”?
- Close by renewing your commitment to let God reign in your life.