



Date: August 6th, 2023

Title: Our Father

Scripture: Matthew 6:5-15

Introduction to Analog

The word, Analog, means “something that is similar or comparable to something else.” Analog is designed to be a tangible way to take another, deeper, look into each week’s Sunday morning message. Individuals, friends, small groups, and families can use Analog for further discussion and exploration of the Sunday teaching. May this tool help you explore the expansive heart of God and practice love in the ways of Jesus.

Teaching Season

When Jesus’ teaches his disciples to pray, he speaks 57 words. While brief, Jesus’ prayer covers every corner of our life; past (forgive), present (give us bread) and future (deliverance). We will explore the breadth and depth of these well-known words, how we can continue to pray them in a fresh way, and why they have had such staying power for over 2,000 years.

Teaching

We continued to explore the Lord’s Prayer with friend of DCC, Michelle Warren, through the lens of the challenging but worthy pursuit of justice. With the Lord’s Prayer hinging on the reality of God’s Kingdom breaking into the here and now, “on earth as it is in heaven,” we are emboldened for the heavy, challenging, but good work of justice through our prayer that God would “give us this day our daily bread.” She ultimately encouraged DCC’s efforts of truly being peacemakers in our community while challenging us to continue to press in to the broken spaces because the Kingdom of God is here, but not yet.

Listen to the teaching [online](#) or on the DCC App

Opening Question for the Group: Start your group discussion with the question below.

- 1) Who’s your dream dinner guest and what would you cook for them?

Questions for Discussion or Reflection

Here are some questions for discussion or reflection. Don't feel like you have to cover them all, and you may have questions of your own to ask. The Spiritual Practice for this week could be very meaningful for you or your group, so plan on 10 minutes or so for this exercise. If you are using this in a group context, read through these questions and the Spiritual Practice before your group meets to familiarize yourself with this material. You may want to send this out to the group before you meet.

1. Michelle made the connection between the Lord's Prayer and the thread of justice that went throughout her entire teaching. Had you made this connection before between the Lord's Prayer and the pursuit of justice? How do you understand the connection between prayer and justice?
2. We were presented the challenge to stay in the work of God's Kingdom by pursuing justice because the Kingdom is here but not yet. What is most challenging for you when you think about being someone that seeks peace and justice?
3. The pursuit of justice does not solely include "building bridges toward what we see but also back from where we've come." Which of these is more challenging for you and why?
4. How might the prayer "Give me today my daily bread" impact our personal and communal pursuits of justice?

Spiritual Practice:

This week for our formation practice, we invite you to listen to our guided time of prayer and reflection. You can listen to this guided prayer by clicking on the link below. You can also access the spiritual formation podcast through the DCC App.

*** For this series, I have included two options of prayers: The Lord's Prayer, which will be included every week, and a rotating selection from the podcast. There is deep value in repetition and it could prove meaningful to sit with this single meditation each week as we move through the Lord's Prayer given by Jesus as seen in the scriptures. But if that is not serving you or your group well, feel free to use the varying one each week.

[Spiritual Formation Podcast: Guided Meditation - The Lord's Prayer](#)

[Spiritual Formation Podcast: Prayer of the Senses](#)