FOR GOD'S PARDON TO BE LIBERATING Matthew 6:9-13

NEIL TRAINER April 2, 2017



NOTES



FOR GOD'S PARDON TO BE LIBERATING Matthew 6:9-13

Suggested Questions for Individual Study or Group Discussion*



- † In what ways have you or someone you know well had life significantly impacted by financial debt? How does debt affect a person's relationships, personal freedom, and sense of self?
- † Different churches say the forgiveness petition of the Lord's Prayer differently, using either "debts," "trespasses," or "sins." (Each word is used by Jesus. See Mt. 6:12; Mt. 6:14-15; Lk. 11:4.) How does each term bring out a different aspect of what we need to have forgiven? How are each seen in a person's daily life?
- † If Christ died for our sins (Col. 2:13-14) and there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ (Rom. 8:1), why must we still ask our Father in heaven for forgiveness (Mt. 6:12)? What happens if we do and if we don't?
- † In the Lord's Prayer, how does Jesus connect our asking for forgiveness from God with our giving forgiveness to others (see also Mt. 6:14-15)? Why are receiving and giving forgiveness connected this way? What does our forgiveness of others—or the lack thereof—reveal about our hearts and souls?
- † Reflect on the grace God has given you in Christ, both *what* God has forgiven and *how* God has forgiven you. How does this give you both motivation and an example for forgiving others?
- † What do you find to be the hardest part about extending Christ-like forgiveness to another person? How would you like to grow in this?
- † What is one way you will incorporate the Lord's Prayer into your spiritual practices this week (e.g., use as a framework for my daily prayers; recite repeatedly & meditatively throughout my day; focus on one petition each day through the week)? How can your small group support you in this practice?

^{*}Adapt or select questions to fit the needs and makeup of your group.

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