Kingdom Culture sermon on the mount series

Aug 13th

PERSONAL REFLECTION OR GROUP DISCUSSION

MATTHEW 6:5-8

1. How does Jesus' instruction to pray in private (verse 6) impact the way we approach prayer in our busy lives today? Share examples of how you can create private moments for prayer amidst daily routines.

2.In verse 7, Jesus warns against "babbling" in prayer. What are some practical tips to maintain sincerity and authenticity in our prayers while avoiding repetitive or empty words? How can we cultivate a meaningful prayer life?

3.Jesus encourages us to trust in God's knowledge of our needs (verse 8). How can we balance making specific requests with the understanding that God already knows what we need? Share personal experiences of finding this balance.

4.Verse 5 suggests that the motive behind our prayers matters. How can we examine our intentions when praying for the approval or recognition of others? What steps can we take to ensure our prayers are genuine conversations with God rather than performances for an audience?

5.Jesus uses the term "Father" to refer to God in these verses. How does viewing God as a loving Father impact the way we approach prayer and ask for our needs? How can this concept deepen our connection with God in practical ways?

6.Reflecting on verse 6, discuss practical ways to create a dedicated space or time for prayer in your daily routine. How can this practice enhance your spiritual life and help you stay focused during prayer?

7. Verse 8 implies that God knows our needs even before we ask. How does this truth relieve the pressure of "getting it right" in our prayers? How can we develop a sense of trust and surrender in our communication with God? Cf also Romans 8:32