Praying - Week 1

“Alignment”

Matthew 6:9-13

1. Prayer is aligning ourselves to God’s will.

*This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.* ***1 John 5:14***

1. The most misunderstood prayer:

*This, then, is how you should pray: "'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'* ***Matthew 6:9-13***

1. Aligning our prayers with God’s priorities:
* God’s reputation

*Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.* ***1 Peter 2:12***

* Kingdom expansion

*In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again."* ***John 3:3***

* Alignment with God’s will

*Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.* ***Romans 12:2***

* Material provision

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.* ***Philippians 4:6***

* Forgiveness of our sins

*Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.* ***Ephesians 4:32***

* Spiritual protection

*And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.* ***Ephesians 6:18***