

Blue Print for Life Series

Introduction:

Each day, with each decision we make, we are each building a life. And better decisions will help us build better lives. The best things are built from the best plans. Luckily for us, God has provided a Blueprint for Life.

Group Lesson – Schedule

Week of 03-01-20 - Blue Print for Life 1 of 4

Week of 03-08-20 - Blue Print for Life 2 of 4

Week of 03-15-20 - Blue Print for Life 3 of 4

Week of 03-22-20 Blue Print for Life 4 of 4

Week of 03-29-20 – Open Night

Icebreaker:

Have you ever had to pray in public? If so, tell about the first time you prayed in public?

READ .

Matthew (NIV) 6: ⁵ “And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. ⁶ But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. ⁷ And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. ⁸ Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. ⁹ “This, then, is how you should pray: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, ¹⁰ your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. ¹¹ Give us today our daily bread. ¹² And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. ¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.’ ¹⁴ For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵ But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins. ¹⁶ “When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. ¹⁷ But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- ✓ **Is it difficult for you to pray? Why or why not?**
- ✓ **Did someone teach you to pray or did you just begin praying?**
- ✓ **Do you believe there is a right way or a wrong way to pray? Are there things you should not do when you pray? Explain.**
- ✓ **What is your earliest memory of the Lord’s Prayer? Did you grow up saying it as part of a church service? What part does the Lord’s Prayer play in your life today?**

- ✓ **What is one thing you learned about prayer from Matthew 6?**
- ✓ **Have you seen people pray like a hypocrite described in Matthew 6:5-8? How did it make you feel? What does Jesus say their reward will be (v.5)?**
- ✓ **God knows what we need before we even ask (v.8). If this is true, why should we pray?**
- ✓ **Does verse 6 suggest that we should never pray in public? Why or why not?**
- ✓ **Talk about how you pray. Are you alone? With family? Do you have lists of requests? Praises? Do you use Scripture? What do you tend to pray for most? For what are you most reluctant to pray? Why?**
- ✓ **Let's pray together. How can we pray for you?**

Rivers United Church S.O.A.P. Reading Plan

Monday – Acts 7

Tuesday – Acts 8

Wednesday Acts 9

Thursday - Acts 10

Friday - Acts 11

Saturday - Acts 12

Sunday - Evaluate and See You at Church

For upcoming events go to riversunited.church