



Teach Me

Part 1
March 11, 2018

Whats the Point?



I. INTRO

- A. Sports lovers and their rituals
- B. Start of a new series Teach me to Pray
 - Prayer might be more like cheering on your favorite team
- C. Easy to check out when the topic of prayer comes up
 - For some prayer is just plain weird
 - It's just plain awkward
- D. What's the point?
 - What if what we thought was the point of prayer wasn't?
 - What if we're frustrated or disillusioned about prayer because we didn't really know what prayer is

II. TEACH US

- A. The disciples noticed a difference in the way that Jesus prayed

Luke 11:1 (NKJV) ¹ Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, *that* one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples."

- B. Do I really need to be taught to pray?
- C. The prayer before "The Prayer"

III. WHEN YOU PRAY

- A. Before you pray

Matthew 6:5 (NKJV) ⁵ "And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.

- If Jesus said don't pray like this – that tells us that there's a right and wrong way to pray

Matthew 6:6 (NKJV) ⁶ But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who *is* in the secret *place*; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

Matthew 6:7 (NKJV) ⁷ And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen *do*. For they think that they will be heard for their many words.



- Our problem is generally what do I say when I get there?
- Jesus is saying – don't worry about that – I'm not moved by how much of you say or how beautiful it might be.
- **So the pressure is off of you because you're not going to move God with that.**

Matthew 6:8 (NKJV) ⁸ “Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him.”

C. If He already knows what I need then what's the point!?

- The point of prayer isn't you trying to coerce God, wear him down and convince him to do something he doesn't want to or play let's make a deal
- All of this and we haven't even gotten to – How to pray.

IV. THE PLACE OF PRAYER IS IMPORTANT

A. This quiet intimate place of prayer isn't reality for most people

- For most people the place of prayer is the place of “impossible”

B. The point prayer isn't a religious exercise, it's a relational exercise

God has invited you and I into a relationship of intimacy and connection that only happens behind closed doors.

C. Everything in life will flow from a personal relationship with Christ

D. Make an appointment

- Decide right now – pick a time and a place and for the next seven days begin to explore your relationship with God