

Home Group study: week beginning 22nd January 2023

TITLE: Prayer and Fasting – The Lord's Prayer (part 3) PASSAGE: Matthew 6 v9-13

Introduction:

Do you have any example when you were led, or you led a friend into doing something you shouldn't at school? Spill the beans!

If you were led – why did you go along with it? Or if you were leading, what did you do convince your friends to come along?

Read: Matthew 6:9-13

Chris shared that the Greek word for 'temptation' can also be translated as 'trial' or 'proving' or 'challenge' or 'test'.

A plea to ask God to help us not be led into a time of trial - does that change how you see verse 13?

We all experience times of temptation - are there times that you feel more susceptible to temptation? What might be going on around you that causes you to be more susceptible?

How could being more self-aware of these 'triggers' help us to resist temptation?

Jesus encourages us to pray to be 'delivered' from the evil one, how does God deliver us?

How have you experienced his 'rescuing' from plans of the evil one?

There are going to be times where we succumb to our temptations, but we know that we have a loving father whose mercy and grace are new everything morning!

Chris shared about the importance of practicing confession – how do you think we can do that? Do you think regular confession is healthy and important in the life of a Christian?

How do you approach prayer? Chris shared the balances of: formal vs informal, articulate vs raw, rigid lists vs whatever comes to mind

How do you feel about praying on your own and in a group?

Chris & Wendy shared two examples of the power and encouragement of prayer – that God cares about all things the big and the small.

Have you any recent examples of answers to prayers of any size from God?

Pray:

- For God's rescue of us from the plans of the evil one.
- For God's strength and wisdom to resist temptations.
- For perseverance in our prayer life individually and as a church.