



Welcome to the *Combined Edition* of **Women's Bible Study** A Ministry of Autumn Ridge Church

Dear Friends,

This week and next we will be looking at *The Heart's Cry to a Loving Father* – two weeks on the Lord's Prayer. For some of us this prayer is a cherished part of worship. For others, this prayer might remind us of long ago, barely tolerated services where we mouthed words we were too young to understand. However we viewed it in the past, I'd like us to lay aside any previous experience we've had with this passage and take a fresh look.

Today Jann will give some background on the Lord's Prayer and will also take a look at the first three petitions. You'll notice that the prayer itself falls neatly into two halves: the first three are God-centered requests and the last three are man-centered, in the sense that they have to do with our needs.

We don't naturally think of praying in the way that these first three petitions suggest – that God's name be made holy, that his kingdom come on earth, and that his will be done here in the same way as it is done in heaven. We tend to think that if God wishes these things to happen, that he will make it so. But here is where we get into the mystery of prayer. You see, we have a hand in making God's name holy, when we represent him on earth in a way that glorifies him. We have a hand in bringing his kingdom, when we act in the power of the Holy Spirit to make his gospel known. And we also have a hand in making "thy will be done" into a truthful statement when we are living according to his will in our lives, each day. Prayer is the way that we come to understand God's holiness, his kingdom, and his will, and prayer is the way that God communicates himself to us.

I pray that you and I will be women who help bring about God's glory, his kingdom and his will. That doesn't need to be abstract or complicated. It just means that, every day, we're asking God to show us how to not bring shame on him through our actions; to make us aware of people who need us to show them God's love; and to put aside our selfish desires and look at God's big picture.

Your friend, Gretchen Steer

If you are ***new to Women's Bible Study today***, please visit us at the registration table so we can place you in a small group (AM) or at a table group (PM).

February 24, 2010
The Heart's Cry
to a Loving Father – Part I
Today's teaching lecture
from Matthew 6:5-10 is by
JANN WRIGHT

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Devoted Hearts annual women's conference is April 23-24, 2010, at Autumn Ridge. Tickets and registration are available through Christos BookCenter or online www.devotedheartsrochester.com. Tickets are \$39 until March 31 and \$44 after this date. Optional box lunch is an additional \$6. Buy 10 tickets and get one FREE! Consider attending with your small group.

Thursday, February 25, at 7:00 PM, there will be an informational meeting for ACTS 4 Kids in the Maninka Room.

Next week, we will continue studying *The Heart's Cry to a Loving Father* when Gretchen Steer teaches part 2 of the Lord's Prayer from Matthew 6:11-15.

All of our weekly materials are available at <http://autumnridgechurch.org/adult/women/womens-bible-study.html>. Or contact ARC Women's Ministry and WBS Administrative assistant Michelle Johnson at 288-8880 or marthatoo@hotmail.com or e-mail us at wbs@autumnridgechurch.org.

Incident weather policy reminder: If the Rochester Public Schools are canceled or start late on any Wednesday, WBS AM AND PM are both cancelled for that day.

CHURCH CALENDAR:

- **Feb. 22 - March 21, Sharing Hope**
Small Group and congregational informational meetings, followed by weekends of prayer, commitment and celebration.
- **February 28 at 6:00 PM Men's BBQ and Blues Night.** Tell your husbands! Cost is \$17.50 per person or \$125 per table.
- **March 1-23 Pictures** for church directory in Timothy chapel
- **March 5, 7:30 PM Aaron Shust in concert at ARC.** Tickets \$20 general, \$30 gold seating available at Christos BookCenter.

Women's Bible Study Weekly Outline

The Heart's Cry to a Loving Father – Part 1

Matthew 6:5-10

Jann Wright



Corruption of Prayer

- 1.
- 2.

Remedy

- 1.
- 2.

Our Father

In Heaven

Hallowed Be Your Name

Your Kingdom Come

Your Will Be Done on Earth as It is in Heaven

GOD HONOURED

*O God, Praise waiteth for thee,
and to render it is my noblest exercise;
This is thy due from all thy creatures,
for all thy works display thy attributes
and fulfil thy designs;*

*The sea, dry land, winter cold, summer heat,
morning light, evening shade are full of thee,
and thou givest me them richly to enjoy.*

*Thou art King of Kings and Lord of Lords;
At thy pleasure empires rise and fall;
All thy works praise thee
and thy saints bless thee;
Let me be numbered with the holy ones,
resemble them in character and condition,
sit with them at Jesus' feet.*

*May my religion be always
firmly rooted in thy Word,
my understanding divinely informed,
my affections holy and heavenly,
my motives simple and pure,
and my heart never wrong with thee.*

*Deliver me from the natural darkness
of my own mind,
from my corruptions of my heart,
from the temptations to which I am exposed,
from the daily snares that attend me.*

*I am in constant danger while I am in this life;
Let thy watchful eye ever be upon me
for my defence,
Save me from the power of my worldly
and spiritual enemies
and from all painful evils
to which I have exposed myself.*

*Until the day of life dawns above let there be
unrestrained fellowship with Jesus;
Until fruition comes, may I enjoy
the earnest of my inheritance
and the firstfruits of the Spirit;
Until I finish my course with joy
may I pursue it with diligence,
in every part display the resources
of the Christian,
and adorn the doctrine of thee
my God in all things.*

*(The Valley of Vision: a Collection
of Puritan Prayers and Devotions.
Edited by Arthur Bennet. Banner of Truth
Trust, Edinburgh, UK. 1975. p24-25.)*

**Women's Bible Study is a ministry of AUTUMN RIDGE CHURCH
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