

## GroupWork

Bible Study Discussion Starters

*Life application materials for use in Life Groups, home devotions, and other small groups.*

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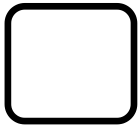
1. Encourage one another. Share with each other how you make use of the Lord's Prayer in your daily life? Do you have a way to keep focused so you don't "just say the words"?
  
2. Read Paul's prayer in [Ephesians 3:14-21](#). Focus on the words "love" and "power."
  - a. Notice that the word "power" is used three times in this prayer. Why is power needed to know God's love?
  
  - b. The last use of "power" is a promise. How does that comfort you?
  
3. Read 2 Timothy 4:6-22, focusing on verses 6-8 and 16-18. Paul knows his end is near. Yet he is confident even in the face of death.
  - a. What phrase or verse from this section is especially meaningful to you?
  
  - b. Share a story of someone you know who has faced death in Christ courageously like Paul.
  
4. Read together Luther's explanation to the sixth petition:

"Lead us not into temptation. What does this mean? God surely tempts no one to sin, but we pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us, so that the devil, the world, and our flesh may not deceive us or lead us into false belief, despair, and other great and shameful sins; and though we are tempted by them, we pray that we may overcome and win the victory."

What key thought from this explanation do you want to remember as you pray the Lord's Prayer?
  
5. Read together Luther's explanation to the seventh petition:

"But deliver us from evil. What does this mean? In conclusion we pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would deliver us from every evil that threatens body and soul, property and reputation, and finally when our last hour comes, grant us a blessed end and graciously take us from this world of sorrow to himself in heaven."

What key thought from this explanation do you want to remember as you pray the Lord's Prayer?
  
6. Olympic gymnast Simone Biles is not alone in "fighting all those demons" of mental health. What comfort do the petitions "Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil," offer us when we fight our own mental health demons?



# NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

Take notes during the sermon to help you remember the main points.

## When You Pray, Pray for Leadership

*Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one (Matthew 6:9).*

### I. A Prayer of Humility

a. The future is unknown to us.

i. We can't see the d \_\_\_\_\_

ii. We can't see the c \_\_\_\_\_

b. When we do look into the future, our three enemies overwhelm us.

i. \_\_\_\_\_

ii. \_\_\_\_\_

iii. \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. A Prayer of Dependence

a. Dependence in l \_\_\_\_\_

b. Dependence in d \_\_\_\_\_

## Possible Next Steps

- **Begin a daily use of the Lord's Prayer.** Include the Lord's Prayer as part of your breakfast meal prayer or use it as part of your bedtime prayers.
- **Look back in thanksgiving.** Consider some of the difficult life choices you have made. Are there choices you made that especially lead you to thank the Lord for his guidance?
- **What are you afraid to lose?** Luther in his explanation to the seventh petition mentioned "every evil that threatens body and soul, property and reputation." Make a list those things (and people) in this life that are precious to you. Think of one or more of them each time you pray, "Deliver us from evil," asking the Father to protect that precious gift from the devil's desire to destroy it.
- **Look ahead with confidence.** Memorize the last words of the Apostle Paul and ask the Father to give you this same confidence in the face of death. "The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen" (2 Timothy 4:18).