

SESSION TWO: MEETING GOD OUR FATHER DAILY

1. Seeking God.

- God's people are commanded to seek him Psalm 105:4.
- Seeking God for corporate renewal: 2 Chronicles 14: 4; 15:2; 12
- Seeking God for personal ethical renewal: Psalm 119:2,10; 119:155. cf. Matt. 6:33 seeking God's kingdom and his righteousness
- Seeking God himself, seeking God's face. Psalm 27:8, 63:1.

2. Entering the presence of God

- *Old Covenant – Temple/Holy of Holies.*  
A place centred spirituality Psalm 27:4, 63:2, 84: 1-2;  
with limited access Hebrews 9:7.
- *New Covenant – Ready Access through Christ. Hebrews 10: 19-22*  
Cf. James 4:8.

Look at Hebrews 10:19-22.

What is the main verb of the sentence?

What are the supporting reasons for doing what the main verb says?

What does the writer do to encourage believers who feel inhibited from approaching God by their sin?

What does this passage say to you?

3. Meeting our Father: the Lord's Prayer.

- *'Recognising Our Father'*

**Love** Ephesians 1: 4 – 5; **Irrevocable Commitment** Ephesians 1: 5; **Authority** John 20:21; **Compassion** Psalm 103: 13; **Intimacy** Romans 8:15-16, John 16:32, **Care and provision** Luke 11: 11-13; **Delight** Jeremiah 3:19.

- *'Worshipping our Father'*

'Hallowed be your name.'

Recognition of God. Desire for him to be recognised and glorified for his holiness.

A passion for the glory of God. Psalm 105: 3; Romans 11: 36.

- *'Submitting to our Father'*

'Your kingdom come: your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.'

Personal submission - Hebrews 12: 9, James 4:7, Romans 12:1.

### **For Group Discussion.**

- Last week's assignment was to pray the Lord's Prayer out loud each day: how did we all get on? What is positive? Was it strange? Was there anything negative or difficult about the experience?
- Drawing near to God: why should we want to draw near to God daily? What inhibits us from doing this?
- 'Our Father' – how does the biblical description of God as our heavenly father whet our spiritual appetites?
- Has anything come up this evening that you don't understand or feel quite at ease with? Discuss it with the group.
- How has the Lord spoken to you this evening? What does he want you to do in response?

#### **Assignment for this week:**

Set aside five to ten minutes each day to draw near to God in a time without any other responsibilities or activities.

Begin by reading Hebrews 10:19-2.

Put everything else out of your mind and fill it with the thought of drawing near to God. Remember that it is possible because Christ's death has opened up the way.

Then say the first words of the Lord's Prayer: 'Our Father

As you draw near to God, recall that he is your heavenly Father. Think about the meaning of this and just enjoy recalling its significance. Then respond, very simply with simple prayers of childlike thanks.

Then say: Hallowed be your name.

Remember God's holiness and greatness. Praise him, perhaps by reading

Remember you live in a world where he is not universally adored and worshipped.

Then say: Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Concentrate on your own life, submit your day to him. Bring to him any areas where you are struggling to accept his will. Offer yourself as a living sacrifice for this day.

Next week we will share how this went.