



## **Teach Us to Pray – Solomon’s Prayer**

### **June 29 | Group Guide**

**Introduce this newer sermon series and ask a few reflection questions (10 minutes).**

When the disciples asked Jesus, “Lord, teach us to pray,” they were seeking to emulate the words of our greatest Teacher and find a deeper connection with God the Father. Today, we’re asking the same. In this six-week series, we’ll echo that ancient request and allow God Himself to be our guide. Teach Us to Pray explores six powerful prayers from the Old Testament - prayers from real people in real need. Their cries for help varied from forgiveness to healing to blessing to deliverance, but each of them reveals a rich, honest, and dynamic connectivity to God. Together, we’ll learn not only how to pray, but how to live in ongoing, transformative relationship with the One who hears.

To that end, we’re going to look at several Old Testament examples of prayer. This week, we continue with Solomon as he seeks wisdom from God from his place as King of Israel.

- Where do you normally go to seek wisdom?
- How often does the request for wisdom come up in your prayer life? What do you think might change if you had an infusion of God’s wisdom in your life?

**Read 1 Kings 3:5-14 and discuss the sermon (35 minutes).**

- When God invites Solomon to ask for anything, Solomon asks for “a discerning heart.” What does Solomon’s request reveal about what he values most?
- Re-look at Solomon’s humility in **1 Kings 3:7**. How often do you feel like the kind of humility that permeates Solomon’s prayer here also fills your own prayer life? What would more humility in your prayer life look like?
- Has there ever been a relationship, an event, a decision, a choice that you should have asked for more wisdom in but didn’t? Explain.
- In his sermon, Dan talked about three ways to acquire wisdom: (1) God’s Son; (2) God’s Word; and (3) God’s People.
  - Read **Colossians 2:3**. Do you agree with Paul that “all the treasures of wisdom” are to be found in Christ? Why or why not? What might it look like practically for you to pursue wisdom by looking to Christ?



- Next, read **2 Timothy 3:16-17**. What role does God's Word play in your quest for wisdom? Practically, how should one approach the Bible to glean as much wisdom from it as possible? How does God's Word affect your prayer life?
- Lastly, read **Proverbs 12:15**, **Proverbs 11:14**, and **Proverbs 15:22**. Who do you go to when you need wisdom? Have you ever gone against what you think is personally wise because your godly community encouraged you to go a different direction? What happened?
- Now read 1 Kings 11:9-11. Why did God say he was going to tear the kingdom away from Solomon? What lessons can be learned from this about your pursuit of wisdom? How might Solomon's downfall then affect how you pray for wisdom *today*?
- What else stood out to you from this sermon? What else challenged you?

**Break into smaller groups to pray for wisdom (10 minutes).**

This week, split into smaller groups of 3-4. In your smaller groups, have each person pray what they'd like wisdom for. So, instead of sharing with the whole group what they want wisdom for, instruct each person to just go to God in prayer for what they'd like wisdom for by praying out loud with that smaller group. Once each person has finished praying, return together as a large group to wrap up your night.

**Finish by having someone pray over your whole group (5 minutes).**