

Study Questions
Pray Then In This Manner
July 19, 2009

1) Acts 2:42 *They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.*

- a) How often do you suppose they really met?
- b) What did they do when they met?
- c) What do you think the apostles' teaching consisted of?
- d) What does this look like in today's Western Culture? How are you intentional in implementing this behavior in your everyday lifestyle?

2) Matthew 6:9 *Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.*

a) Romans 8:16-17 *The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.*

- 1) What does it mean to be a child of God?
- 2) Is there a difference in what type of child you are?
- 3) What is an heir of God?
- 4) What is a co-heir of Christ?
- 5) How do we become co-heirs with Christ?
- 6) How does being a co-heir relate to that which we read in Acts 2:42?

b) Hebrews 12:7-11 *It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline? 8 But if you are without discipline, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. 9 Furthermore, we had earthly fathers to*

discipline us, and we respected them; shall we not much rather be subject to the Father of spirits, and live? 10 For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but He disciplines us for our good, so that we may share his holiness. All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.

- 1) Why do earthly fathers discipline us?
- 2) In what ways are you disciplined?
- 3) What does God's discipline result in?
- 4) How does this passage relate to Romans 8:16-17?

3) Ezekiel 36:17, 19-23 *17 Son of man, when the house of Israel was living in their own land, they defiled it by their ways and their deeds; their way before Me was like the uncleanness of a woman in her impurity. 18 "Therefore I poured out My wrath on them for the blood which they had shed on the land, because they had defiled it with their idols. 19 "Also I scattered them among the nations and they were dispersed throughout the lands. According to their ways and their deeds I judged them. 20 "When they came to the nations where they went, they profaned My holy name, because it was said of them, 'These are the people of the LORD; yet they have come out of His land.' 21 "But I had concern for My holy name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the nations where they went. 22 "Therefore say to the house of Israel, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for My holy name, which you have profaned among the nations where you went. 23 "I will vindicate the*

holiness of My great name which has been profaned among the nations, which you have profaned in their midst Then the nations will know that I am the LORD," declares the Lord GOD, "when I prove Myself holy among you in their sight.

- a) How did Israel defile the land?
- b) Why did God scatter Israel among the nations?
- c) How did God judge Israel, his people?
- d) So do our daily actions matter?
- e) How do you suppose Christ will judge Christians at the Judgment Seat?
- f) Is there any connection here between discipline and what we read in Acts 2:42?
- g) Why was God's name profaned?
- h) Do we ever profane God's name?
- i) What is the purpose for God's dealing with Israel?
- j) What scope of time do we see in this passage?
- k) In what other ways does this passage, although dealing with Israel, relate to us as Christians?
- l) When we pray for God's name to be holy, what are we actually asking for?

4) Matthew 6:10 *Thy kingdom come, they will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.*

a) Matthew 25:14-30 Parable of the Talents

- 1) Who is the journeyman?
- 2) Who are the servants?
- 3) What are the talents/possessions which he left in their charge?
- 4) What happens when he returns?

- 5) Is there any correlation between the amount of talents left in one's possession and the degree of their reward?
- 6) When does this take place on our timeline?
- 7) When we pray "thy kingdom come" are you ready for the kingdom to come? Are you faithful with the talents (roles) which Christ has placed in your care until His return?

b) Mark 14:36 *And He was saying, "Abba! Father! All things are possible for You; remove this cup from Me; yet not what I will, but what You will."*

- 1) What is the example we see set forth here by Christ?
- 2) How are we to respond when God seems to answer a prayer in a way that we didn't want?
- 3) How does this relate to Hebrews 12:11?
- 4) Why do we not always get what we ask for when we pray to God?
- 5) What should we be asking for?

5) Matthew 6:11-12 *Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.*

a) Exodus 16:4 *Then the Lord said to Moses, "Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may test them, whether or not they will walk in My instruction."*

- 1) What was it that the Israelites had to gather daily?
- 2) Why did God do it this way? Why not give them a week's supply of bread so they wouldn't have to keep going out each day?

3) What is our bread today? How does this correlate with Acts 2:42?

b) Matthew 18:21-35 The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant

1) Why is it so difficult for us to forgive?

2) Is forgiving and forgetting a biblical response?

3) What if you seek forgiveness but the person doesn't "give" it to you?

4) What is forgiveness based off of? Does it depend on the mood you are in that day or how many times it comes up in your head?

6) Matthew 6:13 "And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil (one)."

a) James 1:13-14 *Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone. 14 But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust."*

1) What is the difference between temptation and testing?

2) At what point does temptation become sin?

b) What does it mean to be delivered from the evil one?

7) Personal

A) What do you see as the focus of the Lord's Prayer? What is your focus when you pray?

B) Which part of the Lord's Prayer do you struggle with the most?

C) Are you striving to be adopted as a son or are you content with being a child?

D) Are you prepared for the kingdom to come? Are you being faithful in the roles God has given to you?

E) Are you nourishing yourself daily?

F) Are you withholding forgiveness from anyone?

G) Do you have self-control to not let your weak flesh entice you to sin?