

# Recovering Your Lifeline

## Small Group Guide

**Warm-up Question:** (Choose one, make up your own, or skip this part all together, depending upon the nature of your group.)

1. Describe one helpful habit you have in your life.
2. What person outside of your family do you talk to the most often?

**Read the following passage:** Matthew 5:27-32.

All of us have things we look to to help us make it through life. The prayer Jesus gave to his disciples indicates that every part of our lives should flow from our connection with God. In this specific prayer we see connections to our identity, our need to belong, mission, provision, relationships, and the challenge of temptation.

**Questions for Discussion** (Choose several that are relevant for your group):

1. Read John 5:16-23. Describe the nature of Jesus's connection with the Father. Why were the Jewish leaders angered by Jesus's comments? In what ways is Jesus's relationship with the Father unique, and in what ways is it a model for us?
2. Do you pray regularly? If so, what does this look like? What are some different ways we can pray?
3. What is significant about the beginning of Jesus's model prayer, "Our Father"? To what extent have you embraced the identity of being a son or daughter of God? Explain. What are some ways you would like to see this identity take deeper root in your life?
4. Read Matthew 12:46-50. What do Jesus's comments imply about "spiritual" family? Do you view your spiritual life as primarily an individual pursuit or something that should be lived out in the context of the church? Practically speaking, to what extent are you currently prioritizing your role as a member in the body of Christ?
5. What does it mean to desire God's name to be hallowed, his kingdom to come, and his will to be done? What are some ways this desire should shape how we approach our jobs, our families, our neighbors, and our personal dreams?
6. Do you ask God for provision in your life? What's the difference between seeking God for provision and "serving money" (Matthew 6:24)? What do you think God desires for you in the area of material provision?

7. Are you embracing forgiveness in your relationship with God and in your relationships with other people? Explain.
8. In what areas do you regularly experience temptation? Are you praying about these areas?

**Pray**