HEXAGON

The Prayer Hexagon

Brief description:

God desires for us to have an intimate and powerful relationship with him via prayer. This shape provides some of the categories to consider when talking with God, based on the example provided by Jesus.

When to use this shape: If people in your huddle don't know how to pray beyond a rote, memorized prayer or list of requests, this tool may be helpful for them to realize the many components of a vital relationship with God. If a new believer doesn't know how to talk to God, this tool can be helpful!

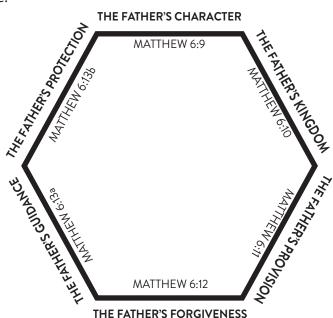
Scripture: Matthew 6:5-13

"And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

"This, then, is how you should pray:

""Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.'

Shape:



Explanation:

When Jesus gave us an example of how to pray, it wasn't wordy, extensive, or technique-filled. It certainly wasn't a set form of words to use every time. It was simple, profound, multi-dimensional and rich; a framework that guides us beyond our habitual prayers into prayers of adoration, confession, intercession, petition, guidance and warfare, all declaring our dependence on God and seeing him as Lord.

The Father's Character - Jesus shows us that we can interact with God in an intimate manner. He is our Father, our "Abba" (Daddy). But there is an element of respect as well. He is in heaven and deserved to be hallowed, (honored as holy, respected, we are in awe of him). He is both our Father and our King.

The Father's Kingdom - When you surrender to God as Savior of your life, you recognize that He is Lord and you want His Kingdom to advance on earth. How can you be a part of the advance of His Kingdom on earth?

The Father's Provision - Jesus shows us that we can admit our need to God and request His provision. We have physical, spiritual, and emotional needs. We can trust that He will provide for our needs.

The Father's Forgiveness - When we trespass (sin) against God, we're basically telling God that He and what He has provided for us is not enough to satisfy us. We must confess our sins against God and others, as well as follow God's example by forgiving others.

The Father's Guidance - God wants us to go into the world to share His kingdom. But we should not be of the world and succumb to its temptations. We should pray for God to guide us in our interactions with the world as week seek to join in His mission.

The Father's Protection - We are in a spiritual battle, and the enemy wants to lead us astray from what God wants us to do. We can pray that God would protect us from temptation and spiritual warfare as we are doing His mission here on earth.

Questions that could be asked in huddle:

- 1.) Do you commonly communicate with God regarding all of these topics or do you tend to focus on only some of them?
- 2.) How do you relate to God as both Father and King?
- Do your prayers always focus on your needs and never focus on the advancement of God's kingdom?
- 3.) How can you be praying for the Father's guidance and protection for your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ?
- 4.) How do you seek intimacy with God in prayer?

Application and Practice Options

- -Have everyone in your huddle pray through the hexagon for the person on your left concerning one prayer request they have.
- -Pray through the hexagon as a huddle about a common need in the church or for your Village, each person taking a section to pray.
- -Take the next week and pray through one side of the hexagon each day, all day, as you go about your routine.

Sources and Resources:

Building a Discipling Culture by Mike Breen

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http://theobloby.blogspot.com/2009/06/lifeshapes-hexagon-prayer.html

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