

Goldstone Church

Small Group Questions

John 14:1-14

For Starting

- If you could write a novel about any subject, what would it be? Why is this topic so special to you?
- Are long prayers better than short prayers? Why/why not?
- What is the key to an "effective" prayer?
- In what way/s can prayer be an ongoing conversation?

For Reviewing

- Where does Jesus say He is going – and why (v.1-2)?
- What will Jesus do afterwards – and why (v.3-4)?
- Which 2 disciples does Jesus directly answer (v.5 & 8)?
- What similarities does Jesus have with the Father (v.9-11)?
- What is required to do "greater things" (v.12)?
- Do you think v.13-14 are a "blank cheque" to God's people enabling them to ask and receive *anything*? Why / why not?

For Discussion

- How does prayer address the problem of a troubled heart?
- Jesus declares that He is the *only* way (v.6). How would you pray for someone who says that "all religions lead to God"?
- Discuss the merits of the description of prayer (overleaf).
- What do you think of the idea of God answering prayer?
- No one in the Old Testament directly addressed God as 'Father', but Jesus did so 170 times. What does this tell us of the relationship between Jesus and His Father in heaven?
- Quote: "*Prayer has features in common with all relationships that matter*". Do you agree/disagree? How does this affect how we live our lives today?
- How can we move passed 'shopping list' prayers and develop our relationship with God through prayer?
- What are some of the reasons why we struggle with prayer?
- You could end by reading together John 14:9.

John 14:1-14 (NIVUK)

Jesus Comforts His Disciples

¹ "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me.
² In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴ You know the way to the place where I am going."

Jesus the Way to the Father

⁵ Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

⁶ Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No-one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."

⁸ Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us."

⁹ Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? **Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father.** How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰ Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. ¹¹ Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves. ¹² I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. ¹⁴ You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it."

Prayer is simply talking to God.
He speaks to us: we listen.
We speak to Him: He listens.
A two-way process:
speaking and listening.