Can I Pray For That?

Opening Question:
Have you ever wanted to pray for something that seemed a little trivial, or at least not like something that would truly be that important? What was it? Did you pray or choose not to pray?

Read and Study John 14:12-14
When you read this passage, what are some of your first thoughts or questions?

In verse 13 Jesus says: "I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son." What does Jesus mean that the Father may be glorified in the Son? How does the Jesus doing what we ask in his name glorify the Father? Why do you think Jesus emphasizes this?

What do you think Jesus means when he says "greater" things?

In the message, Pastor David talked about two possibilities of interpretation for what Jesus means when he talks about 'greater things.' What were those two ways of understanding? Which one did Pastor David lean towards in his interpretation?

How in the past have you understood the phrase <u>in Jesus name</u>?
After hearing the message, how do you understand it now?

Do you feel like it's easier to pray for small things or big things? Why?

Do you ever hesitate to pray for something because you feel it might be too self-centered?

How can we navigate the tension between praying for personal wants and needs and praying for God's glory?

Application:
We want everyone at Redeemer to be circling at least one thing in prayer. We also want to be persistent in these prayers, continuing to pray them all year, and to see God's faithfulness over time in our lives.

Have you started circling anything yet? If so, what is it? If not, why not?

Prayer
- Share praises and prayer requests with one another.
Guided prayer: Lord, help us to trust in your goodness and to take up your invitaiton to ask. In places where we might still be hesitant, bring your grace and teach us. Free our hearts to ask, just as children ask, for you to give us good gifts. You are our Heavenly Father. Amen.

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