The Model Prayer

Adam Willingham · Matthew 6:9–13

INTRODUCTION

- What do we do with this beautiful teaching on prayer that Jesus provided? And what we do is we learn to pray like Jesus prayed.
- The model prayer is not so much a command as it is an invitation. It is an invitation to share in the prayer life of Jesus Himself.
- So we need to use this model prayer to pray, to learn to pray, like Jesus did.

1 Prelude: Our Father Who Is in Heaven

- This is a reverent and a humble address to God who is our Father, who dwells in an infinitely higher and celestial plane, heaven itself.
- We must always, brethren, be cognizant of the fact that when we approach God in prayer, we are approaching heaven.
- So in order for this to mean anything, he has to first be your father and you his child.
- There is an instant humility and reverence demanded by the genuine utterance of this rich greeting.

2 Praise: Hallowed Be Your Name

Exodus 15:11

- The word hallowed means made holy.
- The name of God essentially stands for God Himself.
- The way to hallow God's name is the same way that the psalmist does, is to hallow God by telling him of his mighty works.
- Notice also here that praise comes before petition.

3 Purpose: Your Kingdom Come, Your Will Be Done

- God's kingdom is the realm where he rules.
- If the kingdom is now here, and if our King Jesus is on the throne, then what do we need to be praying about the kingdom? We need to pray for the welfare of the kingdom.
- If we want God's will to be done on earth, then how about we start by praying for his will to be done in our lives?

4 Provision: Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread

- Bread here in a broader sense represents all the provisions of this life.
- This prayer is an expression of continual daily dependence upon God for every provision.
- Do we rely on God enough for our provisions? Or do we trust in ourselves?

- Our prayers provide the evidence of where we place our trust.

5 Pardon: Forgive Us Our Debts

Matthew 18; Matthew 6:14–15

- This is the one thing he did not have to pray for because he was sinless and he did not need forgiveness.
- Our debt is a 10,000 talent debt that we can never pay back, and we beg him for forgiveness.
- For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others, then your father will not forgive your transgressions.
- It is absolutely essential to our prayer life that we say that and that we remember that.

6 Power to Overcome Sin

1 Corinthians 10:13

- I believe that this is essentially asking God to keep us from being confronted with temptation.
- To pray against temptations and yet rush into occasions is to thrust your fingers into the fire and then pray that they may not be burnt.
- This is calling on God to give us the strength to overcome sin.
- God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Do we have then the humility that disciple had in Luke 11 and verse 1 to come before our master and to say, Lord, teach us to pray?**

MY NOTES