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Advance Communication

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## Sermon 2

### How Do I Pray? (Matthew 6:9-13)

Today, we will examine Jesus' response to "How do I pray?" Although we will be in Matthew 6, Luke 11 claims that the disciples' request for Jesus to show them how to pray is what initiated his teaching on prayer. In Matthew 6, Jesus advised them to pray in the following manner to be of assistance to them. Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy. 10 May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. 11 Give us today the food we need, 12 and forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us. 13 And don't let us yield to temptation, but rescue us from the evil one. (vs. 9-13, NLT). Let me share some broad observations with you before we begin to analyze this prayer.

The "Lord's Prayer" is the name most commonly given to this prayer.

Jesus did not intend for this prayer to be repeated ritualistically with repeated, routine recital, but rather to serve as an example or model for our prayers.

The entire purpose of prayer is centered on God, from beginning to end focused on His adoration, worthiness, and glory. True righteousness, the kind of righteousness that defines the people of God's kingdom, centers on Him in all aspects.

Prayer is not trying to get God to agree with us or to provide for our selfish desires. In order to obtain what we want from God, we cannot demand it through prayer. Prayer is a declaration of God's majesty, justice, and sovereignty and seeking to conform our desires and our purposes to His will and glory.

We can observe from this that Jesus suggests we include in our prayers six main categories. I will walk you through them.

#### PRAISES To GOD

(1). Praise to God. In verse 9, Jesus commanded that we pray, "Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy." (NLT). Some translations read "Hallowed be your name." We need to be aware of two factors in order to comprehend this.

The term "name" refers to God's identity, attributes, nature, agenda, as well as everything He is, does, and says.

The definition of "holy" is divine and sanctified.

By praying, praising, and living in accordance with who God is, we preserve God's name holy.

What then is the word of God? His name (character, nature) is holy righteousness, purity, love, all-knowing, forgiving, compassionate, provider, healer, guide, and gracious. He is also all-powerful, all-merciful, forgiving, and merciful. That is His identity, that is His character, that is who He is. Here are some instances to illustrate this.

Psalms 100:4 says, "Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise. Give thanks to him and praise his name" (NLT). Praise God for who He is.

Starting with who God is and praising Him for who He is, is one of the best methods to start a prayer. Your issues and your life take on a new perspective once you begin to realize how big and wonderful God is. Sometimes, when you consider God's attributes, you find that the concerns and anxieties you once experienced have vanished.

Prayer Principle: we will always keep God's name (His character, nature) special and holy in our life by praising and exalting Him for who He is with our lips and life. This reminds us of how great God is.

#### GOD'S MAIN OBJECTIVES.

(2). In verse 10, Jesus instructed the crowd to pray, "May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done just as it is in heaven."

(NLT). You are asking God to have authority over your existence in this prayer. It's important to note that Jesus spoke of God's "kingdom" and "will" being carried out in our life and on earth.

God's will is His plan

for ruling our existence, and God's kingdom is His authority over it. In this prayer, we are asking God for guidance on what to do.

Father in heaven, I want to treat my spouse the way you want me to. I want to carry out your wishes in my marriage. Please control my tongue and my emotions so that I can treat my partner with respect.

"Heavenly Father, I'm having trouble with job dissatisfaction. Even though I now dislike my job, I want your kingdom to come and for you to do all things through me each and every day at work. Please assist me to honor you through the way I conduct myself at work and to glorify you by treating those I work for and with with respect.

Prayer Principle: we will always be praying and seeking God's will on all matters. His kingdom will supersede our will and agenda. This reminds us of who is really in charge and in control.

GOD MY PROVIDER

(3). In verse 11, Jesus said pray like this, "Provide us today the food we need" (NLT).

Sometimes "meal" is interpreted as "bread." If you live in a third-world nation where finding food is a daily problem, then this remark may be real for you, but Jesus is using it in this instance to summarize and represent the necessities of life. the necessities for living that we need in life.

I want you to pay attention to how "today" is highlighted. Give us what we need "today." What do you need today to follow God's instructions? Keep in mind that the word "food" refers to what you need to fulfill God's current purpose for your life

Lord, I need wisdom today because I want to talk to my son about a critical problem.

I will be working on my personal budget today. Heavenly Father, please help me to prioritize and arrange my funds so that I can glorify you today.

“Lord, thank you for how you provided for me today. I have food to eat, a roof over my family. Our family supports us, and a future to look forward to.”

Prayer Principle: we are to pray about the various needs in our life. This will remind us that God provides for our needs regardless of how they arrive in our life.

## PARDON OF GOD

The forgiveness of God. In verse 12, Jesus commanded us to pray in the following manner: "And forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who transgress against us" (NLT). This consists of two parts.

We are instructed to pray, "Forgive us our sins," in the first section. Jesus is not addressing salvation in this passage. Jesus is urging believers to regularly confess our sins to God, including His disciples, you, and me. We must frequently ask God for pardon. "Lord, forgive my envy and jealousy over my friend's house and health," one would say. Forgive me, Heavenly Father, for being ungrateful and selfish with regard to my money and possessions. Please make it possible for me to be more generous with those who are in need. Or, "God, please pardon me for being irritable and nasty to my spouse and kids. Please enable me to properly adore them.

The second part of this statement by Jesus says, "Forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who transgress against us." Eventually, people will commit sins against you. Someone may lie to you. Some people may steal from you. Others will spread rumors about you. Some people will be abusive to you. These people who sin against you could be your spouse, your kids, your friends, your parents, your workplace, your boss, even the classmates you share. We must be willing to pardon them when they transgress against us.

However, pay close attention now, because Jesus is urging you to beg God for forgiveness in accordance with the forgiveness you have shown others.

In other words, God is giving you the freedom to determine the level of forgiveness you will get from Him based on how you have forgiven others.

"God, I have this coworker who lied about me at work and I'm planning on getting even with him. I want you to treat me the same way I'm going to treat him."

"Heavenly Father, this woman has harmed me and told lies about me. She drives me crazy. When I see her, I'm going to be cold and indifferent to her and keep a grudge against her. I'm also not going to forgive her. Hence, I ask that you treat me as I will treat her.

God is telling us that He will forgive us in the same way that we forgive others. I believe you comprehend. God wants us to repent and seek his pardon.

desires that we come to Him and confess our sins. He desires that you acknowledge your sin. You are being urged to do that by him. He wants to forgive you, but He will let you decide how that forgiveness is given by how you choose to forgive others.

Prayer Principle: We are pleading with God to pardon us for our transgressions against Him and to pardon others for their transgressions against me. This will serve as a constant reminder of God's mercy and kindness in our lives, as well as our obligation to extend these qualities to others.

## GOD'S PROTECTION

(5) Jesus said "pray like this in verse 13, And don't let us fall to temptation, but deliver us from the devil" (NLT). This relates to your individual spiritual struggles, battles with sin, and conflicts with the devil.

This prayer admits to your own weaknesses and vulnerabilities. At work, I will be tempted to say or do anything that is not honoring to You. Please help me resist those temptations. Or,

"Heavenly Father, please don't put me in a scenario where I might give in to something I will later regret. I'm genuinely attracted to this new person in my life." This is the time to discuss your struggles with sin and the temptations that come into your relationship with the Lord.

Jesus said we are to also pray, but deliver us from the evil one. In opposition to God and you, there is a real enemy.

The Bible refers to him as Lucifer, the devil, Satan, the wicked one, and the enemy. Every day of your life is a war against His armies, His plans, his tactics, and His influences on this world. Cry out to God for deliverance and rescue from the evil one when you notice that you have been seduced and entranced by His ways.

Prayer Principle: We need to pray carefully for protection from or escape from the spiritual challenges we face in life.

This will serve as a constant reminder that we engage in daily battle with Satan's realm and plans.

## CONCLUSION

This week, during your period of prayer, follow Jesus' instructions on how to pray. For the next five days, allot a short amount of time each day. Take Jesus' instruction for meditation and pray through it whether you are in your bedroom, out for a stroll, or sitting on the porch

Begin with some compliments. glorify God for all that He is. Remind yourself of God's majesty and beauty. "You are a compassionate God, a God who is all-knowing and all-powerful. I adore you for who you are. We are grateful that you are my God, that you have rescued us, and that you have adopted us into your family.

After that, discuss God's objectives and some issues that require your decision-making. What is God's will in regards to this choice I have to make?

Then, express some of your wants and needs to God. "Oh my God, I need a new job. I've registered everywhere, but nothing seems to be available. God, I need your healing in my existence. Would you be able to cure me? Tell Him what you need.

Then express your repentance to God. You are both pardoned and forgiven. "God, please pardon me for my transgression of. I'm so sorry, and I'm grateful that you are a merciful and forgiving God and that your mercies are fresh every morning. Then, "God, So-and-So has wronged me and sinned against me; I want to forgive them and I need your assistance to do so.

In the same manner that you want to forgive me, I also want to forgive them. Spend some time with God talking about these issues.