

Daily Devotional, August 20, 2020

“In This Manner, Therefore, Pray”, (Matthew 6:9, NKJV)

“In this manner, therefore, pray...” (Matthew 6:9-13)

Jesus gives us a model prayer, a perfect example of a prayer pleasing to God the Father. It is given us a pattern to follow, but praying its words is acceptable. We cannot go wrong with praying God’s words. The Lord’s Prayer ([Matthew 6:9-13](#)) consists of six or seven petitions, as the last petition can be broken into two parts.

1. **“Our Father in heaven,”** is He to whom prayer is generally addressed. Prayer is to the Father, through the Son (1 Timothy 2:5), and in the Spirit (Romans 8:26). We pray with childlike trust (Matthew 7:9-11). To acknowledge that God is in heaven exalts His majesty (Jeremiah 23:23-24). **“Hallowed be Your name.”** Hallowed means holy, sanctified, set apart, to be revered. God’s name is to be honored and praised (Psalm 115:1).
2. **“Your kingdom come.”** God’s authority and will are desired. What kingdom is spoken of here? Is it the invisible, messianic, or eternal, or some other kingdom? Although God’s Kingdom in all its aspects and phases may be applied here, the main thrust of the petition is that God reigns as King over our lives, governing them by His Word and Spirit.
3. **“Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”** This petition implies surrender of self will, and a desire for the promotion of God’s perfect will (Matthew 16:24; Psalm 103:20-22).
4. **“Give us this day our daily bread.”** We are to pray for both physical and spiritual food (Psalm 104:27-28; Acts 14:17; John 6:35; Job 23:12). As God answers this prayer, our trust and confidence in God’s ability and willingness to grant us this bread is increased.
5. **“And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.”** As we experience God’s grace and forgiveness, we ‘pay it forward’ to others (Psalm 32:1). **“For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses”** (Matthew 6:14-15). Refusal to forgive results in a loss of peace now, loss of communion with God, and unanswered prayer.
6. **“And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.”** God will not author temptation, but He will allow it (James 1:13; 1 Corinthians

10:13). Let us recognize that we cannot stand against the world, the flesh, and the devil apart from divine help.

“For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen”

(Matthew 6:13). God in His infinite power and love is both able and willing to answer the prayers of His children (Mark 10:27; Romans 10:13; Philippians 4:19). “Amen” means ‘so be it’. This word expresses a willingness to accept God’s will and response to our prayer, knowing that the ‘Father knows best’ (Psalm 135:6; 2 Corinthians 1:20).