

A Study of the Sermon on the Mount
Matthew 5-7

The Lord's Prayer
Matthew 6:8-14

Matthew 6:9-13

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.**

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory
forever. Amen.**

Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote:

“Jesus gave them the Lord’s Prayer. Every prayer is contained in it. Whatever is included in the petitions of the Lord’s Prayer is prayed aright; whatever is not included is no prayer. All the prayers of the Holy Scripture are summarized in the Lord’s Prayer, and are contained in its immeasurable breadth. Thus the Lord’s Prayer becomes the touchstone (Pruefstein) for whether we pray in the name of Jesus Christ or in our own name.”

Martin Luther wrote:

(The Book of Psalms) “penetrates the Lord’s Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer penetrates it, so that it is possible to understand one on the basis of the other and to bring them into joyful harmony”.

What did Jesus teach here about prayer?

- Who do we pray to?
- How can earth touch heaven in prayer?
- How can heaven touch earth in prayer?

1. Who do we pray to?

- “Our Father in heaven”
- Romans 8:15: “For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’”
- Intimacy dismantles formality
- “Our” – the relationship we have with our fellow believers is essential to recognize in prayer.

2. How do we come to God?

- “Hallowed be your name” – reverently
- “Your kingdom come” – worshipfully
- “Your will be done” – surrendering our agenda for His agenda
- 1 John 5:14-15: “And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.”

3. What do we ask of God?

- Physical needs – daily bread
- Spiritual needs –
 - Inner forgiveness
 - Outward direction
- 2/3's of the prayer are for spiritual needs.
- The inner need of receiving and sharing forgiveness is the greatest emphasis.

Daily Bread

- **Good news! God's will is that the physical needs of His children are met!**
- **Matt. 6:25: "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing."**

Daily Bread

Psalm 37:23-26: "The steps of a man are established by the Lord, when he delights in his way; though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the Lord upholds his hand.

I have been young, and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread.

He is ever lending generously, and his children become a blessing."

Daily Bread

- **God is better at managing your money than you are.**

Forgiveness

- “Debts” – obligations, sins of omission
- “Trespasses” – unlawful intrusions, sins of commission
- “Sins” – missing the mark, out of plumb (nicht im Lot)
- “Forgive us” – verb means once for all
- “As we forgive” – verb describes continual action

Guidance and Direction

- **“Lead us” – How do we know the will of God?**
 - His Word
 - His Spirit (prayer)
 - His people (wise and spiritual Christians)
 - Circumstances
- **“not into temptation” – do not overestimate your strength to resist, or Satan’s power to deceive.**

4. Benediction

- **“Yours is the kingdom” – Kingdom is specific. Everything we touch or can imagine belongs to God.**
- **“and the power” – “Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the LORD of hosts.” (Zech. 4:6)**
- **“and the glory” – “Christ in you, the hope of glory” (Col. 1:27)**