

PRAYER



MEMORY VERSE: "I am praying to you because I know you will answer, O God.
Bend down and listen as I pray." Psalm 17:6

DAY 1

MATTHEW 6:9-10 — Praying to Our Father in Heaven

Through the gift of prayer we are able to talk to God. God is with us and ready to listen. We can pray, at any time and in any place, but there are some areas of prayer and attitudes towards prayer that are important to know. Jesus gives us this example for how to pray.

1. Read verse 9. Why is this the first line of the prayer? How are our prayers affected by who we think God is and what He is like? How can we keep His Name Holy?
2. Read verse 10. Jesus has come but He will come again. What do you think God wants us to be doing until that time comes?
3. When you pray for God's will to be done in the world and in your life do you know what that means? What do you think it looks like for God's will to be done in your life?

DAY 2

MATTHEW 6:11-12 — Praying for Our Needs and Forgiveness

4. Read verse 11. This line is praying for what we need. What kinds of things do you regularly ask God for? Why does the Lord's Prayer only focus on asking for "daily" bread?

5. Read verse 12. Why do we need to ask God for forgiveness on a regular basis? Is confession a part of your prayers?

6. Why does the Lord's Prayer connect our experience of forgiveness by God with our own forgiving of other people?

DAY 3 MATTHEW 6:13 — Praying for Protection and Help

7. Read verse 13. What particular trials/temptations/tests are you going through at the moment? What help do we need to overcome them?

8. Jesus' death on the cross defeated Satan, but until Jesus returns there are still some battles to be fought. How do you think prayer impacts evil and the evil one (Satan)?

9. Do your prayers reflect the model that Jesus gave us? What have you learned about prayer by studying the Lord's Prayer? How can you put that into practice into the future?

DAY 4 Blessings of Prayer

10. Read James 5:16b What do you think this verse means?

11. Read Philippians 4:6-7. How does prayer help with worrying? What will we experience if we pray that way?

12. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18. What is God's will for us? Why do you think this is His will for us?

13. What should we remember when prayers seem to go unanswered? See Isaiah 55:8-9.

DAY 5 Wrap Up

14. Do you believe that the Creator of the world wants to listen to you? How do you feel about talking to God in prayer?

15. How has this study encouraged or challenged your prayer life?

BELIEVE

Psalm 17:6 tells us that we have a God that hears our prayers! That is incredible! The Lord's Prayer not only teaches us how to pray like Jesus by giving us words to say, but it also leads us into a rich and meaningful way of talking to and hearing from the Lord. May you use prayer to draw closer to God.

PRAY

Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy. May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us today the food we need, and forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us. And don't let us yield to temptation but rescue us from the evil one. Amen.

Matthew 6:9-13 (NLT)

Matthew 6:9-13

9 Pray like this:

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.

Holy: treated with reverence, honor, and respect. It's a reminder that our God is a perfect, good, just, and holy God who deserves to be praised, not for what He's done, but simply because of who He is.

Other Scripture References

James 5:16b:

"The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results."

Philippians 4:6-7:

"Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. 7 Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus."

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18:

"Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus."

Isaiah 55:8-9:

"My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts," says the Lord. "And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine. 9 For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts."