

The LORD'S Prayer is Jesus' Instruction on Prayer - Luke 11:1-13

Mel Dahlgren – South Bay Christian Church – January 11, 2020

When the disciples saw Jesus perform miracles and teach, they didn't say, "Lord teach us to teach like you!" or, "Lord, teach us to do that miracle!" Instead, what captured their attention was hearing Him pray.

V. 1: "He was praying in a certain place, and when He finished, one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John also taught his disciples."

They wanted to know how to talk to God in prayer. Here's what Jesus said when they asked this question.

Seven Principles to Remember About Prayer (v.1-13)

Luke gives us 7 principles that will help us pray in a way that is pleasing to God and help keep us focused.

1) Praise (v.2)

"Whenever you pray, say: Father" (Master of the universe: our daddy)
Prayer of Jesus, p. 20 - "Mr. Rice"

"Hallowed be your name" (Your name be honored as holy).

Praise is PRICELESS. A vital part of our prayers. Why was David "a man after God's own heart?" **PRAISE**

2) Purpose (v.2)

"Your kingdom come, (your will be done on earth as it is in heaven)"

It's easy to forget we have a responsibility to fulfill God's purpose in the world. We are a people on mission, and we should be mindful and sensitive about the work of His Kingdom. Each day we are to be busy doing kingdom business.

3) Physical needs (v.3)

"Give us each day our daily bread"

One of the promises that should give us hope for each day is that God does indeed supply our needs. When we pray, it is a part of the instruction of Jesus that we ask the Father for the things that we need to make it through each day. Since it is part of His plan for us as we pray, then we should never hesitate to ask.

4) Spiritual needs (v. 4)

"And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves also forgive everyone who sins against us."

There is not a day that goes by that we should not be mindful of the forgiveness, grace, and compassion of God. It is a healthy reminder for a congregation to think of themselves as participants in a weekly meeting of sinners anonymous. The sin has been forgiven and we are set free. But God provides our spiritual needs and we should not neglect asking for that help.

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5) Protection (v. 4)

"And lead us not into temptation"

It makes sense that the same loving, compassionate, and kind Savior that went to such great lengths to have a relationship with us would also take the time to protect us. His plans and desires for us are so much better than anything we might plan ourselves. The problem we have is that sometimes we don't make wise choices. He desires to help us with this.

6) A parable about persistence in prayer (v.5-9)

". . . because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence, he will get up and give him as much as he needs" (v.8)

Jesus takes the time to explain the importance of persistence using a parable. Like the man in the parable, we need to be faithful to keep asking. He is always willing to listen. You don't annoy Him when you come with a heart that desires His best for you.

7) A 3-fold process for prayer (v.10-13)

Jesus concludes this lesson on prayer by sharing with His disciples the 3-fold principle of asking, seeking and knocking.

1. **Prayer** is only the first step where we PRAY or ASK, and keep asking with persistence.- and you will receive. (We speak)
2. **Study** God's Word to find God's will is how we SEEK. (We listen)
3. **Obedience** – (Meditate and fast as needed) is how we put into action the KNOCK on the door. Jesus: "I am the door" Jn. 10:9