



Teach Us to Pray

Text: Luke 11:1-13

Prayer

Icebreaker: Share as many examples of Jesus praying as you can think of.

1. Wanting to follow Jesus' example, what did the disciples ask Jesus to teach them?
Luke 11:1

The first account of this model prayer (sometimes called *The Lord's Prayer*) is found in Matthew 6:9-13 in Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. He did not intend for us to use this as a memorized repetition to be prayed day after day after day. In Matthew 6:9 Jesus said: *In this manner, therefore pray...* not, *this is what I want you to pray*. This is a pattern for our prayers, not necessarily that we should pray these exact words. This model prayer is like a mannequin to hang your requests on. We should build our prayers around this model.

2. How did Jesus teach us to address God in prayer, and what assurance should this give us as we approach Him? Verse 2; 1 John 3:1; Romans 8:15-17

3. What confidence should we find that our Father is omnipresent and fills the heavens, the atmosphere we breath, the celestial heavens above us, and the place of His throne and future home of the righteous? Verse 2, Psalm 139:7-10

4. What are we doing when we pray, *hallowed be your name*? Verse 2

David, Moses, Paul and other Bible characters hallowed God's name in prayer by referring to qualities of His character. They prayed: *God, since you are merciful, just, loving, gracious, all powerful, holy, eternal, all knowing, patient*, or some other quality of His being, *this is what I am asking You to do*. God's name and character are inseparable.

5. Before we begin to pray for our physical needs, what priority did Jesus teach us to pray for in verse 2? Matthew 6:25-33

6. What are we doing when we pray: *Your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven*? Verse 2; 1 John 5:14-15

7. Does God want us to bring our physical needs to Him? And what things should we pray about? Verse 3, Philippians 4:6-7, 19; James 4:2

8. What vitally important part of our prayer time does Jesus teach us about in verse 4a? Matthew 6:12, 14-15

9. What should we pray for from the second half of verse 4?

10. What benediction did Jesus add to this prayer in His Sermon on the Mount and what assurance and encouragement does this give us in bringing these requests to our Heavenly Father? Matthew 6:13 in the NKJV, NASB, KJV

11. What can we learn from Jesus' parable about the hour in which we live, the need for spiritual bread to give to our lost friends, and persistence in prayer? Verse 5-8 John 4:35; 9:4; 6:35, 51

12. What assurance does Jesus give us as we continually go to our Heavenly Father in prayer, asking, seeking and knocking? Verses 9-10

13. What wonderful gift does our Heavenly Father desire to give to His children to enable us to serve Him and to give others The Bread of Life? Verses 11-13

Think about it this week:

Praise God! Our Heavenly Father is a friend that never sleeps. He is ready to hear our requests day and night. And He has a limitless supply of bread and Holy Spirit power to give to those who are eager enough, and persistent enough, to ask for it, and will keep on asking, seeking, and knocking until they receive it.