

THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

FAMILY DEVOS



The Lord's Prayer

Scripture: Matthew 6:7-13

Memory Verse: Matthew 5:10

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake,
For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

For My Family:

Today we are going to go back and reread what is known as “The Lord’s Prayer.” Jesus instructed us not to pray to be seen and heard by men, nor are we to pray like the heathen, repeating certain phrases over and over again, as if God will answer our prayers only if we say the right thing the correct number of times. The prophets of Baal cried out all day like this with no result (1 Kings 18). Sadly, many have turned the Lord’s prayer into a vain repetition. They know the words by heart, but they don’t consider what they actually mean and how they are supposed to instruct us. Jesus wasn’t saying, “Pray these words.” He was saying, “pray like this, after this pattern, in this manner..”

When you pray, pray to your Father in heaven and praise Him for who He is! He’s your Dad and He wants you to talk to Him! His name is holy, the Name above all names. He is the King of kings, and we are His children. As His children, we want to see His kingdom everywhere: in our hearts, neighborhoods, schools, country, etc. We know that when everyone worships Him as the true King, everything will be as it should be, so we pray for His kingdom to come and His will to be done on earth as it is in heaven. It might sound scary asking for God’s will to be done. After all, what if what He wants is different than what I want? Well, we can rest in knowing that God loves us, and what He wants for us will always be way better than what we want. When we pray like this, it shows that we trust Him.

When we pray we should also ask God for our daily needs like food and water, things we might take for granted. We may have a fridge full of what we need now, but anything could happen, so we ask Him to provide those things for us. We pray for jobs for our parents so they can buy food, for grocery stores to stay open so we can go get food, etc. We should also remember to thank Him as He does provide our daily needs. Additionally, Jesus reminds us that we need more than just things to keep our physical bodies healthy. We need things to keep us spiritually healthy as well. We need clean, forgiven hearts that are willing to forgive others when they wrong us. And we need protection from being tempted to do wrong things. God accomplishes all of this when we pray!

We pray to God this way because He hears our prayer and is able to answer. He is our Father, but He is also our King. When we believe in Jesus, we become citizens of His Kingdom. The kingdom is His, all power is His, and all glory belongs to Him alone forever. What an amazing thing to be in God’s kingdom and to have the King as our Father!

Questions for Young Children:

What is prayer?

How did Jesus say we *not* supposed to pray?

What are some things Jesus tells us to pray about?

Questions for Teens and Pre-teens:

What part of the Lord's prayer sticks out to you the most? Why?

Why does Jesus tell us to talk to God about who He is?

The Father knows our needs, but also wants us to pray for our needs? Why do you think this is?