

THE KING'S SERMON
On Earth As It Is Heaven
A Pattern for Prayer
Matthew 6:7-15

> When was the last time you prayed? What did you pray for?

Big idea: Jesus gives a pattern for prayer that teaches us how to pray and what to pray for.

1. Pray (6:5-9)

a. The wrong way to pray (vv. 5, 7-8)

(1) To be seen by others (v. 5).

5 "And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.

(2) Long thoughtless prayers (vv. 7-8).

> God cannot be manipulated by your prayers (v. 7).

7 "And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words.

Ecclesiastes 5:2

2 Be not rash with your mouth, nor let your heart be hasty to utter a word before God, for God is in heaven and you are on earth. Therefore let your words be few.

> God knows what you need before you pray (v. 8).

8 Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

b. The right way to pray (vv. 9-15)

9a Pray then like this:

* We are to use this prayer as a pattern, not as a substitute.

2. Pray together (6:9b)

9b "Our Father in heaven,

a. Agree together in prayer (Matt. 18:19-20)

Matthew 18:19–20

19 Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. 20 For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

3. Pray to your heavenly Father (6:9b)

9b "Our Father in heaven,

a. Your Father loves you.

John 1:12–13

12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

b. Your Father is powerful.

Psalms 103:19

The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.

4. Pray for your heavenly Father to be glorified (6:9c-10)

* These three petitions display surrender.

a. Ask for his name to be honored (v. 9c)

"hallowed be your name."

1 Peter 1:14–16

14 As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, 15 but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, 16 since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

> This petition is liberating.

Finally, by calling us to pray for God to glorify himself, Jesus frees us from our self-destructive addiction to self-glory and the endless catalog of false glories that comes with it. God's unshakable commitment to his own glory is the most loving thing he could ever do for us. It's what redeems us from us and breaks our bondage to all the things in life that we wrongly think will give us life but lead only to emptiness and ultimately death.

Paul Tripp

b. Ask for his kingdom to come (v. 10a)

"Your kingdom come,"

> This petition is an act of war.

This prayer . . . is for those who hold firmly that Jesus Christ has inaugurated a kingdom, has risen from the dead, reigns at the right hand of God, and is coming again to judge the living and the dead. The Lord's Prayer is for revolutionaries, for men and women who want to see the kingdoms of this world give way to the kingdom of our Lord.

Albert Mohler

c. Ask for his will to be done (v. 10bc)

"your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."

(5) Pray for your heavenly Father to meet your needs (6:11-14)

* These three petition display dependence.

a. Ask for God's provision (v. 11)

11 Give us this day our daily bread,

> This petition is an act of faith.

Matthew 6:26

26 Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

b. Ask for God's forgiveness (v. 12, 14-15)

12 And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

14 For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, 15 but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Ephesians 4:32

32 Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

> This petition is a plea for grace.

c. Ask for God's protection (v. 13)

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

> This petition is a cry for victory.