

Twenty FIRST CENTURY Worship

Worship Through Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

United Community Church

Pastor Ron Burks, 10/21/18

Prayer, as an act of worship, seeks to build an intimate relationship with Christ. As we understand God's nature and character and what He expects from us, we ask Him to empower us to accomplish His will through us to impact His world for Himself (John 14:12-14, Matt 6:5-15, Luke 11:1-13).

The Lord's Prayer is divided into two parts: My relationship with God and my responsibility to God

The Power of the Lord's Prayer

- "Our Father" – Describes my relationship with God as loving Father
- "Who is in heaven" – Describes God's authority over all creation
- "Hallowed be your name" – Describes God's character of holiness and righteousness
- "Your kingdom come" – My responsibility to seek His kingdom (His purpose & His plan)
- "Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven" – My responsibility to be obedient to my Father
- "Give us this day our daily bread" – My responsibility to trust my Father for His provisions
- "Forgive our debts as we forgive our debtors" – My responsibility to seek forgiveness for my sin and be willing to forgive others
- "Lead us not into temptation" – My responsibility to ask my Father to keep me from temptation
- "Deliver us from the evil one" – My responsibility to ask my Father to give me strength to resist the devil
- "Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory" – My responsibility to focus on His rule, His power, and His presence

"Our Father" – My Relationship with God

1. God is our natural Father
2. God is our spiritual Father
3. God is our eternal Father
4. We are God's children under His care to do His will

“Who is in Heaven” – God’s Authority Over All

1. God’s authority – there is no one above Him
2. God’s providence – He directs all things in creation with the focal point being redemption through Jesus Christ
3. God’s power and glory – Everything is created by Him, to Him and for Him (Rom 11:36)

Practical Prayer as We Worship Our Father

1. Our Father
 - a. Thank You, Father, for reminding us that we are children of God and we belong to a wonderfully large family of Christ followers (Eph 3:14-15). Unite us as your children so we will share your love with people around us with the purpose of leading them to a transformational relationship with you.
 - b. Thank You for allowing us to call You “Father, Dad” (Rom 8:15). You allow us to have such an intimate relationship with You that we have access to you at any time (Rom 5:1-2). I will make time each day this week to spend with you.
 - c. Thank you for loving us enough to create us in Your image and save us through the blood of Your Son, Jesus Christ. We all have value and worth because of You, Father (Eph 1:5-7).
 - d. Everything You do in my life is for my good and Your glory (Rom 8:28-29). You want to be involved in every detail of my life. Teach me to trust you as I face life’s challenges and decisions and support others in the body of Christ.
2. Who is in heaven
 - a. We praise You because there is no one above You, Father (Col 3:16-18). You are the Supreme Creator and Lord over the universe.
 - b. Thank You Father for allowing us to come into Your presence through the shed blood of Your Son, Jesus Christ (Heb 4:16, 10:19).
 - c. Thank You for preparing a place for us where we will enjoy eternal peace and fellowship with you, Father (Jn 14:1-3, Rev 21:1-7).
 - d. I acknowledge I am under your authority and give you access to every area of my life. I will submit every area of my life to you. Use my mind, my heart, my words, and my actions today and every day to honor you and glorify your name.