

Twenty FIRST CENTURY Worship

Worship Through Prayer: PART 3

Matthew 6:9-13

United Community Church

Pastor Ron Burks, 11/4/18

The Lord's Prayer is POWERFUL because it leads us to focus on His name, His kingdom, and His will. When I focus on Him, I will see a change in attitude and lifestyle. I will be conformed to His image.

“Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread” – My Responsibility to Trust My Father for His Provisions

“Life is not separated by the secular and sacred. This part of the prayer provides evidence that God cares about the most ordinary matters of our lives.” ~ Ken Hemphill

1. God is the source of our provisions and we must trust our Father to supply them.
2. God is concerned for our physical well-being and our Father will supply our needs (Matt 6:26, Phil 4:19).
3. We must include others when asking God for His provisions

“Forgive Us Our Debts As We Forgive Our Debtors” – My Responsibility to Seek Forgiveness for My Sin & Be Willing to Forgive Others

1. We can never repay our sin debt (Rom 5:21)
 - Sin created a moral and spiritual debt we cannot repay
 - Sin focuses on SELF – Sin Effects Life Forever
2. God freely forgives those who ask for it (Matt 9:6)
 - Forgiveness offers deliverance from the power and penalty of sin
 - Two kinds of forgiveness: Judicial & Parental
3. When we confess our sin, we agree with God about our sin. What we do when we confess our sin: I admit...
 - I have sinned and disobeyed you Father/ I confess my sin
 - I was wrong/ I accept responsibility for my sin
 - I am sorry that I disobeyed you/ I feel remorse for my sin
 - I ask for your forgiveness for my sin/ I appeal to a loving Father
 - Cleanse me and empower me to do what is right/ I accept my responsibility to serve Him by putting away sin and putting on righteousness

4. God expects us to forgive others as He has forgiven us

Why forgive?

- We are children of God & it reflects the character of God
- Christ forgave us as an example to follow
- It allows us to fully experience God's forgiveness free from a guilty conscience (2 Cor 2:10-11)
- It allows the Holy Spirit to work freely in us (Matt 5:23-24)
- It builds up the body of Christ and unifies Christ followers

How do we know we have truly forgiven someone who hurt us?

- The bitterness is gone (Heb 12:15)
- We no longer hold a grudge
- Our anger and desire to get even disappears

Practical Prayer as We Worship Our Father

1. Give us this day our daily bread
 - a. Father, thank you for your provision. I claim your promise that you will supply all my needs according to your riches in glory (Phil 4:19)
 - b. We acknowledge we are stewards of your provisions. Teach me to give back to you through the local church to support Your kingdom work.
 - c. My wealth, health, and life are in your hands. Give me strength to trust you no matter what happens in my life.
2. Forgive us our debts (sin)
 - a. We can never do enough to earn God's favor or pay for our sin. Therefore, we must ask God for forgiveness when we sin.
 - b. Father, you take our sin debt seriously. That is why you sent your Son to die on the cross to pay our sin debt. Therefore, I will confess my sin knowing you will forgive me.
 - c. Convict me when I sin by showing me that my sin is simply disobeying my Father. Lead me to not only confess my sin, but ask for strength to overcome those sins that continue in my life.
3. As we forgive our debtors (those who sin against us)
 - a. Father, you expect me to have the same heart as you by forgiving those who sin against me. Show me how I can forgive those who have hurt me. Show me how to love them as you loved me.
 - b. Father, you said the two greatest commandments are to love God with our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and love our neighbor as ourselves (Mark 12:30-31). Fill me with your love for me so I can be a witness of your love for others.