

## Praying the Lord's Prayer for Spiritual Breakthrough

### A. INTRODUCTION

(Taken from the book, *Praying the Lord's Prayer for Spiritual Breakthrough*, by Elmer Towns, Regal Books, Ventura, CA, 1997)

Arenaeus- When your children began to talk, teach them the Lord's prayer. They will learn everything the need to know about Christianity. As the oak tree is in the acorn, all of Christianity is in the Lord's prayer.

### B. WHY THE LORD'S PRAYER?

1. Background. Matthew 6:9-13, included in the Sermon On The Mount. In Luke 11:2-4, given after a disciple asked "teach us to pray." – Luke 11:1
2. Pattern. "After this manner."- Cover the 7 petitions, but not repetition.
  - a. Can be prayed publicly, i.e., plural pronouns, us, our, we.
  - b. Can be prayed privately, i.e., "enter into your closet." – Matt. 6:6 Closet is a symbol word. Symbolic for privacy.

### C. HOW TO BEGIN THE LORD'S PRAYER

1. Unity. The prayer begins with a plural pronoun "our," not a personal pronoun. God is not addressed as a Father, the Father, or my Father, but as "Our Father." Our means to prayer in Jesus name.
2. Basis. How do we come to God in prayer?
  - a. Praying in Jesus' name. This is the way most prayers are concluded. "Whatsoever ye shall ask in my name that will I do" – John 14:14. But that formula is not found in the Lord's Prayer because it is included in the phrase "Our Father." We come to God with Jesus.
  - b. Because of Calvary. We can pray the Lord's Prayer because we are covered by His blood shed at the cross. – Eph. 1:7
  - c. Because of His intercession. We can pray the Lord's Prayer because "He (Jesus) ever liveth to make intercession for us." – Heb. 7:25
3. Intimate. A new title is given to God by Jesus. He is called Father. The title GOD (*Elohim*) means Creator, all-powerful Being. The title LORD (*Jehovah*) means the Self-Existent One, the covenant keeping Lord that relates to His people. The title MASTER (*Adonai*) means owner and/or possessor.

### D. SEVEN PETITIONS OF THE LORD'S PRAYER

1. Two sections.

#### THY(God) PETITIONS: PRAYING FOR GOD'S GLORY "IN HEAVEN"

1. Thy name be hallowed.

2. Thy kingdom come.
3. Thy will be done.

**Semi-Conclusion-“On earth as it is in heaven”**

~THE HINGE~

4. Give us our daily bread.-

**US PETITIONS: PRAYING FOR OUR SPIRITUALITY “ON EARTH”**

5. Forgive us our debts.
6. Lead us not into temptation.
7. Deliver us from the Evil One.

**Conclusion**

2. Semi-conclusion. “On earth as it is in Heaven.”
3. Overview of the seven petitions.

_____	Hallowed Be Thy Name. A prayer for God to be glorified.
_____	Thy Kingdom Come. A prayer for God’s principles to guide your life.
_____	Thy will be done. A prayer to submit to the rulership of God.
_____	Give us this day our daily bread. A prayer for things to meet our daily needs.
_____	Forgive us our debts. A prayer to cleanse known and unknown sins.
_____	Lead us not into temptation. A prayer for victory over sin and failure.
_____	Deliver us from the Evil One. A prayer for protection from spiritual dangers and destruction.