

Weekly Study of Sunday's Message

October 5, 2025 "Let's Sing!! Finding God in the songs we sing." "The Lord's Prayer"

I Intro.

We're moving through fall, and have big things planned. We're also beginning a new series today. You'll see more opportunities for you to participate in the life of NCC. Stay connected to our social media to keep up with everything that's happening. We're glad you've chosen to join us as we move through 2025. Welcome to our companion devotional to Sunday's message. It's just a part of all we have to offer to you. Whether you were able to participate in this service or not, this devotion is free-standing. We hope you find this tool helpful on your spiritual journey. We don't want you to miss out on anything. We consider you part of our community. We have many ways you can plug into life at NCC. You can find all those through our website, app, and social media sites. Our app is the best way to livestream our services, but you can also livestream on FaceBook and YouTube. You can revisit past services, sign up for events and even give. We're encouraged by your presence when you gather with us. New and familiar faces join us every Sunday. If you join us online, we appreciate your presence. We are 100% committed to our virtual attenders. We are your church family, and if there is anything you need, prayer, or anything else, please let us know.

II Sunday.

This is how I begin a wedding ceremony. *"We have come together in the presence of God to witness the joining together of this man and this woman in holy matrimony. Let your presence be welcome- and let your hearts be glad".* I assembled that specific ceremony from a bunch of places. The purpose was to remind the audience EVERYONE is central to this ceremony. Hold onto that thought.

PURPOSE of this series.

First, I need to hit the overall purpose for this series, and we'll get back to *"let"*. This is to see worship as bigger than just singing. Not only a time to meet, be with, God. But to find and experience truths that we can apply to our own personal lives that grow us in our regular daily walk with God. The songs we sing are; a promise of God's presence, our theology (personal experiences with God), our testimony, and an act of resistance. And grow our ability to be Christ-like in our walk.

So, when you sing these specific, and other, songs, it's not just focusing on what you like or maybe don't like about the songs. It's to help you move past your own preferences, into a place where even if you're not crazy about the song (we all have our own personal preferences) it can still speak to you. For every song, whether you like it or not, whether it's your style or not, you can find something in the song that helps you meet God and grow closer to him. Praise and worship is such an essential element in worship. We want to help expand your connection to God through worship.

Power of the word: "let"

"Let's" get back to the word *"let"*. The song we're featuring today is ***"The Lord's Prayer"***.

This first line is repeated twice in the song.

Father, let Your Kingdom come (hey, oh)

Father, let Your will be done

On Earth as in Heaven

Right here in my heart

And you have to include the *"hey, oh"* too.

Just so you know, I went DEEP down the rabbit hole on this message. The word “let” appears in some form, roughly 1500 times in scripture. I want you to see “let” as an invitation. Especially an invitation into something new. In your ordinary, everyday, walking around life. “Let” is calling you into something you’ve never done before. And in that invitation, we do the work to find out if there is anything inside of you that may be hindering your ability or desire to let the “let” actually let. So, if you’re a seasoned follower of Jesus, let this “let” be an invitation into what an even more committed, deeper walk would look like. If you’re fairly new, a novice (we ALL were at some time) in your walk with God, then consider this “let” be an invitation to explore, ask questions, inquire, be curious to what a next step could be for you.

Scripture

Before we get to the song for today; **“The Lord’s Prayer”**, let’s unpack the heart and power of this prayer, and understanding of its use of the word “let”. See the word “let” all through scripture. “Let” is the intentional surrender of something to a greater thing. It means allowing something to fully be its divine self. Deep inside, fully accept something for what IT is, not what we think it should be. We’ll unpack this more after we look at some passages of scripture that use the word “let”.

Examples of “let” in scripture. A few examples of “let” in scripture.

1. Creation. From the very beginning “let” was calling forth the natural order and purpose of things. **“Let there be light”**. **“Let there be separation between waters to create land”**. **“Let dry land appear”**. **“Let the dry land produce...”**. **“Let there be lights in the sky that...”** **“Let the waters be filled...”**. **“Let the land produce...”** And then- **“Let us create humans in our own image...”**. Letting things come forth and be known, and experienced for what they are. The power of “let”, is allowing something to flourish in its divine self, is woven into all of creation. One of my favorite “lets”. **Exodus 5:1 After this presentation to Israel’s leaders, Moses and Aaron went and spoke to Pharaoh. They told him, “This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: Let my people go so they may hold a festival in my honor in the wilderness.”**

In the work of “letting” there is work towards freedom and liberation for a sacred purpose.

2. New Testament. Just a few examples of “let” from the N.T.

“Let the little children come to me”. **Luke 18:16**. Don’t block or hinder the divine design and calling of God. There is a sacredness to little children that reveals the nature of God.

“Let your light shine before others”. **Matthew 5:16**. Don’t allow anything to hinder the divine within you. We all were meant to shine. To reflect something greater than ourselves.

One of my favorite verses.

“Let us not grow weary of doing good”. **Ephesians 6:9**. This verse seems to say; *“let us stay strong”* Don’t allow the things in your life, your world, hinder you from doing good things. It’s a hint to understanding a deeper truth in “let”. There are literally hundreds more, but I think you get the point.

3. So, what is it to “let”? “Let” calls into being, and highlights a purpose. “Let” recognizes the divine order of all things, and everything we do works to that divine purpose. Understanding and embracing the connectedness of us to the divine. Surrendering of self, we experience purpose and peace, because we’re not fighting against things that are meant to be what they are... SACRED. There is sacred purpose and design woven into our world. *“Letting”* embraces that truth will change our lives.

“Let” from the song: “The Lord’s Prayer”. I met with the praise and tech team a couple of weeks ago, and reinforced my belief that worship is not just an appetizer for the main meal. When we sing, we worship...and experience God. This song is full of the things that are central to living the “let” life. I will reference The Lord’s Prayer found in scripture, because this song does. But, this series is focused on the songs we sing, why we sing them, and how to meet God and grow your relationship, in those songs. So, it won’t literally be walking through the actual Lord’s Prayer.

What does “let” in this song teach us about our understanding and walk with God?

Give us this day our daily bread

Forgive us, forgive us

As we forgive the ones who sinned against us, forgive them

And lead us not into temptation

But deliver us from the evil one

Let Your kingdom come

Here are some specific truths we can learn from “The Lord’s Prayer”

1. “Let” is born out of a realization of the greater thing, so our lives can be formed around it.

The first part of this song repositions our priorities. Aligns our spirit with God.

Father, let Your Kingdom come (hey, oh).

Father, let Your will be done.

We get so caught up in our own stuff in our own world. And having control. Through the model prayer, Jesus helped us reorient our priorities. Which helps us discover the will of God.

You want to know the real will of God? Jesus spells it out pretty specifically.

Matthew 6:33 Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.

When we place ourselves at the center of all of our decisions, and the direction of our life, we’ll find ourselves in some tough places. This verse, and the song ***“The Lord’s Prayer”***, starts our worship, and the formation of our soul, with the realization there is a greater thing being done. When we align ourselves, (heart, soul, mind, all of who we are) with that greater thing, (The Kingdom of God) then we find the peace we’re looking for. Because we can see how we fit into all of the “lets” in creation.

2. “Let” is born out of trust. Since “let” is foundationally relational, then we have to deal with the foundation of all relationships. Trust is the foundation and the starting point for the “let” life.

We see that truth in this song. Help me grow trust. ***Give us this day our daily bread. Give me just what I need for today. No more or no less.*** This will grow my trust and daily dependence on you. This doesn’t mean that everything will work out just like you want it to. Or even to your advantage. But they will work out...an you will be okay. We simply **trust** day to day.

3. “Let” is born out of relationships. Everything in scripture is built on the understanding and importance of relationships. With God and each other. Scripture is a relational document,(understood and interpreted in community) and has to be interpreted with that understanding.

Jesus highlights this in Matthew 22:34-40. *But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees with his reply, they met together to question him again. One of them, an expert in religious law, tried to trap him with this question: “Teacher, which is the most important*

commandment in the law of Moses?" Jesus replied, "'You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments."

The ENTIRE law and all the demands of scripture, are contained in these two understandings and practices of relationships. Your God taught you this truth back during the journey through the wilderness. And the important, essential element of relationships is always making sure you're okay with the important relationships in your life.

Forgive us, forgive us. As we forgive the ones who sinned against us, forgive them.

In all our relational issues, conflict, communication, forgiveness, dealing with difficult issues, it's all wrapped in the pursuit and preservation of relationships. If you are in a difficult conflict. The first question is ALWAYS: "What will preserve the relationship?" Of course, this is always in the framing of; "If at all possible". **Romans 12:18.** In some situations we will have to separate from others.

4. "Let" is born out of selflessness. This bookends the first point.

It's Yours, it's Yours

All Yours, all Yours

The kingdom, the power, the glory are Yours

It's Yours, it's Yours

All Yours, all Yours

Forever and ever the kingdom is Yours

The John the Baptist stance; "He must increase...I must decrease". And we see in this song the constant repetition of this posture in relationship with God. "It's not about me, it's not about mine, it's about you". And from Matthew 6, we are told if we can grow this posture in our daily life, then the things we selfishly go after will be taken care of. *Seek The Kingdom of God, righteousness, and then...* And when you sing this song, really dwell and focus on the words, not only will this be a time of worship, being WITH God. You will also be taking the posture of allowing God to form you.

III Challenge.

Let's talk about "let". "Let" is NOT only a formal process or the beginning of something. "Let" is NOT only getting or giving permission for something to happen, or exist. "Let" is the natural recognition, acknowledgement, yielding to something that is already true and happening. "Let" actually means removing the barriers that hinder something divinely natural from happening.

Which seems to be a theme all through scripture.

Amos 5:24. But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!

This is God's divine plan and how the world should work. "Letting" isn't just praying or singing, it will happen. It's literally getting to work, removing the barriers, and hindrances that keep justice from happening. That explains the power of "let" and what "let" looks like in action. So, when we sing this song, and even when you say; "**The Lord's Prayer**", "let" your heart seek the heart of God. And "let" God reveal to you anything that may be hindering, or blocking your ability to be with him. And then be about the work of making God's work happen. This was the first of four songs we're going to hit for this series. And I love that this song was first, because it's where our spiritual walk, and relationship with God begins. "Let" us pray. Which means remove any barriers, hindrances...you get it.