

Monday

Please read Matthew 6:9-10 again to reorient yourself to God. Praise God for who he is, the holy and compassionate Father, who adopts us in Christ as his very own! If you truly believed this, how would this change your anxiety level? How would this change your prayers?

Tuesday

As you reflect on God as your perfect heavenly Father, which of the four characteristics of his fatherhood (see front page) stand out to you? Why? How well do you know your heavenly Father? If you don't know him well enough, do you realize that you can do something about it? He is waiting for you in his Word! *Thank God for being your perfect heavenly father. Ask him to help you understand more and more of who he is.*

Wednesday

Please read Matthew 6:11. So often we worry about our needs far more than we pray for them. What are some things you are worried about today? Stress, time, money, relationships? Specifically, what are your requests for today? *Bring those to your loving Father now. Write down your requests so you can see how God answered them. As always, pray "Your will be done".*

Thursday

Please read Matthew 6:12. Are there areas where you still feel guilty? *Present those debts to God and thank him for the forgiveness he grants through Jesus Christ.*

Friday

Please read Luke 11:1-13. Here Jesus gives a pattern for prayer almost exactly like the Lord's Prayer we've been studying in Matthew 6. Repetition like this was a familiar way first-century rabbis taught. How has your study changed the way you pray this prayer? Now read further: What is the point of the story Jesus tells next (see verses 9,10)? Basically, Jesus is saying that if we want answers to prayer, we should pray! Why don't we ask God more often for what we need? What reminder does Jesus give in verses 11-13? *Thank your Father for his good gifts to you.*

Saturday

Please read Matthew 6:5-15 to prepare for tomorrow's message. *Ask God to soften your heart and make you receptive to his truth and his people. Pray that you will worship God with your entire being—heart, soul, mind, and strength. Pray that both services will be pleasing offerings of worship to our great God.*



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Praying Like Jesus 2

Message by Rick McRostie on Sunday, January 18, 2015

Jesus teaches us how to pray

Don't make it a show

"And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you." Matthew 6:5-6

Don't make it a formula

"And when you pray, do not keep babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him." Matthew 6:7-8

"Pray, then, in this way... (NASB)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one." Matthew 6:9-13

1. Praise

"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name...." Matthew 6:9

God is a caring Father

God is a consistent Father

God is a close Father

God is a capable Father

2. Purpose

"Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven." Matthew 6:10

God made me to know him

God made me to be like him

God made me to serve him

God made me to be with him forever

3. _____

"Give us today our daily bread." Matthew 6:11

Ask for God's _____

"You do not have, because you do not ask God!"
James 4:2b

“So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.” Luke 11:9-10

Remember God’s _____

“And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:19

See Matthew 6:25-34.

Trust God’s _____

“Praise be to the Lord, to God our Savior, who daily bears our burdens.” Psalm 68:19

4. _____

“Forgive us our debts...” Matthew 6:12

God forgives me _____

“They refused to listen and failed to remember the miracles you performed among them. They became stiff-necked and in their rebellion appointed a leader in order to return to their slavery. But you are a forgiving God, gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love. Therefore you did not desert them, even when they cast for themselves an image of a calf and said, ‘This is your god, who brought you up out of Egypt,’ or when they committed awful blasphemies.” Nehemiah 9:17-18

God forgives me _____

“For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.” Psalm 103:11-12

“When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross.” Colossians 2:13-14

God forgives me _____

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.” 1 John 1:9

God forgives me _____

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.” Romans 3:23-24

Daily Meditations

Daily Bible studies and questions for reflection on Sunday’s topic.

This week’s memory verse:

“One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, ‘Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.’” Luke 11:1