

HONEST PRAYERS

Lord, Teach Us to Pray, Luke 11:1-4

Jesus Prays

Luke 11:1-4 (KJV) ¹ “And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, ...”

- What the disciples noticed about Jesus is He was a man of prayer
- Jesus’ *prayer life* got the disciples attention
- The disciples noticed:
 - Jesus was not an *occasional* prayer, but a *regular* prayer
 - Jesus’ intimacy with God when he prayed
 - Jesus’ desire to pray
 - Jesus’ practice of prayer
 - Jesus’ prayer life is that prayer was like breathing, it easily flowed, it naturally occurred

Lord, Teach Us to Pray

“...when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.”

- The disciples allowed Jesus to finish praying
- The disciples asked Jesus to, “*Teach us to pray as John taught his disciples*”
- It was a common practice for the instructor or teacher to instruct their disciples in the discipline of prayer
- Notice the disciples’ request was not teach us *how to* pray, but *to* pray
- The key to prayer, *is praying*
- We can read about prayer, go to seminars on prayer, and buy videos about prayer, but we will not become people of prayer until we *start* praying
- The more you pray, the more you understand prayer and the more you’ll benefit from prayer
- Notice, the disciples didn’t ask Jesus to teach them to *preach*, only to *pray*
- To know how to speak to God is *more important* than knowing how to speak to people

The Elements of Prayer

² And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth. ³ Give us day by day our daily bread. ⁴ And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

- Jesus immediately answers the disciples prayer request by giving the Lord’s Prayer
- The Lord’s Prayer is also called the Model Prayer because there are elements that we can incorporate in our prayer lives
- And Jesus said, “When you pray”, it means “after this manner”, or “pray like this”
- **Adoration - *Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.***
 - The prayer opens with praise to God for being our Father
 - There is also praise to God’s name, “Hallowed be Thy name”
 - God’s name is holy, righteous, pure, loving, kind merciful and gracious

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- **Submission - *Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth.***
 - We pray for God's kingdom to come and His will to be done in earth as it is in heaven
 - Jesus wants us to pray with a desire that the will of God will be done on earth as it is heaven
 - How are things going in heaven?
 - As citizens of Jesus' kingdom, our desire is to see God's will done on earth as it is in heaven
 - When we pray for the will of God to be done in our lives, it may change how we pray or what we pray for
- **Petition - ³ *Give us day by day our daily bread.***
 - Your daily bread are the necessities of life
 - It represents both our *physical and spiritual* needs
 - God's provision is *daily*, not all at once
 - The need for daily provision keeps the lines of communication open between us and God
 - The daily physical and spiritual provision we need from God is not just for us, it's for others as well, that's we pray, "Give us this day, our daily bread
- **Forgiveness - ⁴ *And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us.***
 - Just as we need daily bread, we also need *daily forgiveness*
 - Bread satisfies the need for the body, forgiveness satisfies the needs of the soul
 - We must pray for God to forgive *our* sins
 - We pray as intercessors for others
 - But there is a *condition* for receiving forgiveness, we must forgive those who sin against us
 - If we expect to experience His forgiveness, we must forgive those who sin against us ***Mark 11:25 (KJV)25 And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.***
- **Deliverance - *And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.***
 - Our prayer is for God to deliver us *from* temptation and *from* the evil one
 - God does not tempt us to do evil ***James 1:13 (NLT2) 13 And remember, when you are being tempted, do not say, "God is tempting me." God is never tempted to do wrong, and he never tempts anyone else.***
 - God promised to keep us from any testing that greater than we can bear ***1 Corinthians 10:13 (KJV) 13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.***

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- Although God does not tempt us to do evil, He does allow us to *go through* seasons of testing
- Therefore, we don't have desire tests, they will come

Pray Like Jesus

"...Lord, teach us to pray..."

- How do we pray like Jesus?
- Start *praying*
 - Through prayer, you can:
 - **Defeat the devil James 4:7 (KJV) Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.**
 - **See lost souls saved Luke 18:13 (KJV) 13 And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.**
 - **Gain wisdom James 1:5 (KJV) 5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.**
 - **Be strengthened Jude 1:20 (KJV) 20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,**
 - **Get people to work in God's mission field Matthew 9:38 (KJV) 38 Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.**
 - **Accomplish the impossible Mark 11:23 (KJV) 23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.**
- Establish a *daily*, personal time for prayer
- Have a *designated* prayer place
- Get a prayer partner
- Journal what God is saying *you* in prayer
 - Prayer is not a monologue it's a dialogue
 - Every word from the mouth of God is valuable, important and life changing; write it down
 - Prayer doesn't just change "things"; prayer will change *you*... for the better
 - Lord, teach us *to pray!*