

# The Lord's Prayer

Bible Study



Great Shelford  
Free Church

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1. Lord, Teach Us To Pray **Luke 11V1**

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.  
And Forgive Us Our Debts,  
As We Forgive Our Debtors.  
And Lead Us Not Into Temptation;  
But Deliver Us From Evil.  
For Yours Is The Kingdom,  
The Power And The Glory,  
For Ever And Ever.  
Amen.

- 1) Do you enjoy prayer at the moment?
- 2) Why do you pray?
- 3) When have you heard God the most clearly?
- 4) What do you need to learn about prayer?
- 5) What do we do at times when prayer is just too hard?

2. Our Father in Heaven **Matthew 6v9**

What are the character traits of a good father? Are you able to share your personal experience of your father?

- 1) Is it helpful for you to think of God as your father?
- 2) Do you get your image of God as father from Jesus or your earthly parent?
- 3) What was going on in Jesus' life when he called God 'Father', and taught his followers to do so too?
- 4) How can we understand the idea of God being our father and other people's father with absolute equity?
- 5) How might we communicate the idea of God's fatherhood to the world?

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3. Hallowed be your name **Matthew 6v9**

“The Lord’s Prayer is given to teach us primarily to seek God’s face, not his hand. Seeking his hand is to ask him ‘to do this’ or ‘to do that’ for us. Seeking his face is to honour his personhood, his character, his heart and his own agenda.” R.T.Kendal

Do you agree?

- 1) What does your name mean? Go to <http://www.behindthename.com> to find out.
- 2) Do you regard God’s name as holy?
- 3) God’s name means, “I am who I am”. What does this tell us about God?
- 4) Jesus was eternally loyal to God, are you loyal to God?
- 5) How might our attitude to God’s name help us see his face today?

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4. Your Kingdom Come **Matthew 6V10**

How would you explain the Kingdom of God to an alien? Why don't you role play a conversation!

- 1) What did Jesus mean by 'the Kingdom'?
- 2) What role does the Holy Spirit play in God's Kingdom?
- 3) Do you want the Kingdom of God to come?
- 4) Can you influence the Kingdom of God? If not why would you bother to pray?
- 5) How might you become more aware of God's kingdom working around me?

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5. Your Will Be Done, On Earth As It Is In Heaven

**Matthew 6V10**

“When your will is God’s will, you will have your will”  
Do you have your will?

Charles Spurgeon

- 1) What is the ‘will of God’,
- 2) How do we discern God’s will for our lives and for the world around us?
- 3) What role does the Bible play in revealing God’s will?
- 4) By saying ‘your will be done’ it assumes God already has an opinion on our situation. Do we believe that God has an opinion on what is confronting us at the moment?
- 5) What connects God’s will on Earth with His will in Heaven? Are they the same thing?

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6. Give Us Today Our Daily Bread **Matthew 6V11**

This is the first of God's prayer list for us,  
do you find it easy to pray for yourself?

1. Why is the first personal prayer about food?  
Surely our spiritual needs are more important than our physical?
2. Do we have a good relationship with food?
3. This prayer is about our physical needs, but not in isolation. The prayer is 'us' not 'me', how should this affect how we view the needs of those around us?
4. Is this prayer just about food? What about our financial and housing needs? What about "belonging needs" such as love and acceptance?
5. This prayer is about today, what God is doing in front of your eyes. Do we really take notice of our daily bread?

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7. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive everyone who sins against us. **Matthew 6v12**

“The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong.” – Mahatma Gandhi  
Do you agree?

- 1) What is sin and is it possible to live a life without it?
- 2) Are you indebted to God? How does Romans 3v23 and 2 Chr 6:36 help in our understanding?
- 3) Our forgiveness and our forgiving others are connected here. Why would Jesus express it this way?
- 4) This prayer is an anti-dote to self-righteousness. Is that something you need?
- 5) This prayer assumes people have hurt us, and that you might be the person someone else is having to forgive. How does that make you feel?

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8. Lead us not into temptation **Matthew 6v13**

“I can resist anything except temptation.”  
– Oscar Wilde,

What are your biggest areas of temptation? Try  
risking being honest and open?

1. Is it possible to avoid temptation?
2. What does James 1:13-16 say about temptation?
3. What is the difference between temptation and testing?
4. Where does temptation come from?
5. How does the world in general deal with temptation?
6. Does God have a role in our temptation?

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9. But deliver us from evil **Matthew 6v13**

“The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is  
for good men to do nothing.”

– Edmund Burke

Do you agree? How might the gospel  
have changed this?

1. How do we deal with all the evil in this world?
2. What role does Jesus have in responding to evil?  
(1 John 3:8 might help)
3. Are we at war with evil? (Eph 6:10-13). If we are  
is it aggressive or defensive?
4. How are evil and temptations connected?
5. How can God help deliver us from evil in our  
lives?
6. Personal reflection: Are we tempted by the evil of  
pride, sexual temptation or unbelief?

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10. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory for ever, Amen **Matthew 6v13**

As the study comes to an end, finish with a time of guided lectio divina on the Lord's prayer.  
What speaks to you?

1. Does it matter that this verse was probably added in later? How does that effect our view of scripture?
2. For yours - for God's is the Kingdom, the power and the glory, the buck stops with him. What does that mean to you and how does it make you feel?
3. Do we live as if God has the kingdom, power and glory?
4. How does God show his power? Are we guilty of trying to manufacture it?

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