

Our Father in heaven

Matthew Chapter 6 : 5 – 15

Prayer

“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. And when you pray do not keep on 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. This, then, is how you should pray :

“ ‘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.

For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

*** PRAYER IS A WEAPON OF WARFARE***

*Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be your name,*

- First reverence

Your kingdom come,

- Learn about His Kingdom

*Your will be done
On earth as it is in heaven.*

- God’s direction is my direction wherever I am placed

Give us today our daily bread,

- Meet our needs physically and spiritually

*Forgive us our debts,
As we also have forgiven our debtors*

- Forgiveness is a two way street, not one way

And lead us not into temptation,

- Let us escape from the cravings of the sinful nature, the lust of the eyes and the boasting of what we have and do

But deliver us from the evil one.

- Deliverance & resistance

OUR WEAPON OF WARFARE FOR LIFE ON
EARTH ***



Imagine yourself carrying a weapon because you need to defend yourself against your enemy.

Could be because you are walking in a dark alley? Or waiting alone in the bus stop?

- Have you thought how you'd wound your enemy let alone kill them?

Prayer is a weapon of warfare for the Christian.

It will always be the only weapon he or she is supposed to be carrying as a Child of Faith.

Not the weapon of gossip, or anger, or fist fight. These are not the ways of God

OUR PRAYER IS :-

- ✓ TO DEAL WITH THE MATTERS/ ISSUES/ ATTITUDES OF THE HEART SO LETS START WITH YOURS FIRST
- ✓ TO COMMUNE WITH GOD, OUR FATHER.
- ✓ A PLACE WHERE YOU TEAR DOWN STRONGHOLDS IN PEOPLE'S LIFE (WHO ARE IN BONDAGE SPIRITUALLY)
- ✓ A PLACE YOU CAN INTERCEED FOR YOUR LOVED ONES WHO ARE TOO STUBBORN TO SEE THE LIGHT
- ✓ A PLACE WHERE WE BELIEVE WE CAN GET THE VICTORY HOLDING GOD'S HAND, AND GOD ALONE KNOWS WHAT WE DID, AND NO ONE ELSE
- ✓ A PLACE WHERE THE DEEP THINGS OF GOD IS REVEALED TO THOSE WHO EARNESTLY SEEK HIM
- ✓ THE WARFARE THAT TAKES PLACE IN SECRET, WHERE THE VICTORY CRY WILL BE HEARD IN THE HEAVENLIES

PRAYER IS NOT :-

- ✓ A MARKET PLACE OR A PLACE OF BARGAINING
- ✓ TO BE USED ONLY WHEN WE NEED AND ONCE OBTAINING WHAT WE NEEDED TO FORGET ABOUT IT
- ✓ IS NOT ABOUT GETTING RECOGNITION

Verse 6 "Go into your room, close the door and pray"

You MUST block out every negative or carnal thought/s, every gossip, every conversation or word spoken against any brothers or sisters, **AND** you are simply required to come to God to reach for a **higher height** in intercession.

This is where you meet God, wait on Him and deal with the heart issues, at the same time obtaining God's blessing

"This, then, is how you should pray"

Hallowed be your Name

When we fear someone

- ✚ We approach them appropriately with the correct salutations, etc
- ✚ We will follow the person we fear / revere
- ✚ We want to be like them
- ✚ We try to please them as much as possible
- ✚ If it was in school, we would finish all our homework on time.
- ✚ We are even prepared for the next lesson

Therefore when we fear God, will we not carry out our assignments or CALLING with such fear and trembling?

Your Kingdom come your will be done

- ✚ Do we spend most of our time thinking about His Kingdom?
- ✚ Do we even spend 10% of one day on it?
- ✚ Or even 10% in an hour?
- ✚ As we yearn to walk closer to His Kingdom we notice it is the WORD of God that will show us His Kingdom
- ✚ Therefore to know His Will is to seek Him and to seek Him is to search in the Word of God
- ✚ *Is His Kingdom already IN YOU today?*

These are the things one should be pondering over, spending time to think about. It will prevent us from having time to envy, be jealous, rage and all the things a carnal mind can dwell in one second of the day.

Your Will be done

- ✚ Do you ever wonder where you **could** have been today if you had let God take **full** control of your life five years ago, or two years ago?
- ✚ When God is given the AUTHORITY to make the decision/s for you, is when you can say "Your will be done."
- ✚ God sees the future, we don't
- ✚ God's way, not ours
- ✚ Why do we take God for granted? Don't you ever wonder what exactly God had in mind when he said "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart"
- ✚ Do we know if we are still that person God had in mind when in the womb?

Today, who decides where you should go, or what you are to wear.

OR do you just pass it off as God is too busy to make these decisions for us?

On earth as it is in heaven

- ✚ If we govern our decisions, our lives, our attitudes, as how Jesus would have, it is then we will make a difference no matter where we are.
- ✚ If we adapt to the cultures and traditions of this world, even its society, then we will forever be stuck pleasing the world and not God
- ✚ Do our decisions today please God or man?
- ✚ In today's times, we see that everyone has an opinion to give. Therefore they pray against person/s whom they "think" are against them. And vice versa. God doesn't want us to pray as we feel like it, no, He wants us to **think and act by the guidance of the Holy Spirit.**
- ✚ Therefore if the Holy Spirit is not guiding us, the tears are only that of self pity, words are in vain
- ✚ In the end, who is really the enemy if not ourselves?

Why is it important for us to ask God to guide us as on earth as it is in Heaven? Are we listening, discerning and then letting our weapon be formed?

Give us today our daily bread

- ✚ **IF** you are tired and weary, come and eat of the manna God has provided
 - ✚ **S**ustenance is God's Word
 - ✚ It means we **MUST** come to God's table, to Sit and Commune with God
 - ✚ It is an action required, a physical action
 - ✚ When you ask God to give you something you must do what God requires of you in order to get it
- Are you afraid to come to the table?
Are you unsure how to sit at the table?
OR are you unsure how to commune with your Heavenly Father especially when sin and guilt plagues your mind?
Remember HE has already forgiven you.....*

Forgive us our debts as we also have forgiven others

- ✚ **** This is the most important KEY to working out our salvation**
- ✚ It is **important** for Christians today, who live in the fast track
- ✚ First be humble enough to understand that you need to LET GO & LET GOD
- ✚ Start a new day, with yourself first, so God can proceed to take you to the next level
- ✚ Then start a new day with others
- ✚ As you hold something against a person, they are bound spiritually. Let it go.
- ✚ Forgiveness goes a long way. More than you realize

We should not be instruments to hinder our brothers and sisters walk with God. Our act of faith coupled with humbleness will contribute to our own blessings and their change of heart.

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one

- ✚ There are many temptations that will be waiting for us.
- ✚ Each will face different issues, money, material, status in life, title, life partners and so much more
- ✚ It is also as simple off a slip of the tongue, temptation comes in many ways
- ✚ If you can let go and let God take over, you will have less temptation
- ✚ It is when we hang on wanting and 'desiring' things that we invite the dark brooding spirits
- ✚ Temptation will become worse if we hang on to '**unforgiveness**'

Recognize these temptations as they come.

Be the over comer God has called you to be. Discern, listen and obey. Your prayers will give you faith to sustain the battles

YOU HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY AS A CHRISTIAN, DO NOT MISUSE THIS WEAPON HANDED TO YOU

SUMMARY

"For, if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." (An Expanded Translation – Kenneth S.Wuest)

- ✚ **IT IS THE SPIRIT ABOUT THE PRAYER**
- ✚ **IT IS ABOUT YOU AND YOUR HEART**

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