

I'm not a
robot



• AFTER praying both of the above, I am ready to tell God my "needs." Worship Him first, surrender to His will, then ask whatever you need to fulfill that purpose! • "Supplication" is to express a need to God: food, clothing, bills, transportation, etc. He provided for 3 million Israelites in the desert! He WANTS YOU to have whatever you need to move the kingdom forward. Just be sure your request is very specific, not general...or you may only get a general answer!4. "Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors...": (INTERCESSION) • Daniel was a great "intercessor." In Daniel 9, he prayed 15 verses of asking God to forgive Israel. Intercession is when you stand between an offended God and an offensive person. • It's almost impossible to remain bitter at someone who you are asking God to be merciful to.5. "Lead us not into temptation, deliver us from evil": (PROTECTION) • Satan's kingdom is real. The temptations we face originate in Satan, not God. Every day, I put on the "whole armor of God" to stand firmly against every attack of the enemy (Ephesians 6). • Pray daily for your city, state, and nation. Pray against attacks upon your family, business, and health. These are the 5 "fingers" in the hand of God. It's the "template" Jesus taught us. Every day this week, pray through these five things and watch God's hand move in your behalf! INTRODUCTION Obviously many people today can recite the "Our Father" but of course not all can explain what it means or answer basic questions about it. The Lord's prayer has traditionally been divided up into two parts: the introduction (Our Father who art in heaven) and the seven petitions. THE INTRODUCTORY PART OUR FATHER WHO ART IN HEAVEN We call God our Father because He was revealed to us through His Son Jesus Christ who became man. Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we are adopted children of God. This free gift of adoption requires on our own part the continual conversion and a new life. When we say the "Our Father" we are speaking to God in a very intimate way, not as a distant figure but as a close member of the family. When we pray the words "Our Father," we are saying that God is not just "my Father," but the Father of all. We can't exclude anyone from God's care, for we are all His children. When we say "Our Father who art in heaven," we are not banishing God to the outer corners of the sky, for where there is peace, joy, happiness and love, there is a slice of heaven. So we acknowledge His presence in our lives, our world and our hearts. Share – copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. Adapt – remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms. Attribution – You must give appropriate credit , provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made. You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. ShareAlike – If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you must distribute your contributions under the same license as the original. No additional restrictions – You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits. You do not have to comply with the license for elements of the material in the public domain or where your use is permitted by an applicable exception or limitation . No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. Expositions of Holy Scripture – Alexander MacLaren"After this manner therefore pray ye." -- MATT. vi.9."After this manner" may or may not imply that Christ meant this prayer to be a form, but He certainly meant it for a model. And they who drink in its spirit, and pray, seeking God's glory before their own satisfaction, and, while trustfully asking from His hand their daily bread, rise quickly to implore the supply of their spiritual hunger, do pray after this manner," whether they use these words or no.All begins with the recognition of the Fatherhood of God. The clear and fixed contemplation of God is the beginning of all true prayer, and that contemplation does not fasten on His remote and partially intelligible attributes, nor strive to climb to behold Him as in Himself, but grasps Him as related to us. The Fatherhood of God implies His communication of life, His tenderness, and our kindred. This is the prayer of the children of the kingdom, and can only be truly offered by those who, by faith in the Son, have received the adoption of sons. It gathers all such into a family, so delivering their prayer from selfish absorption in their own joys or needs. As our Father "in Heaven," He is lifted clear above earth's limitations, changes, and imperfections. So childlike familiarity is sublimed into reverence, our hearts are drawn upward, and freed from the oppressive and narrowing attachment to earth and sense.The perfect sevenfold petitions of the prayer fall into two halves, corresponding roughly to the first and second tables of the decalogue. The first half consists of three petitions, which refer to God and His kingdom. They are three, in accordance with the symbolism of numbers which, in the Old Testament, always regards three as the sacred number of completeness and of divinity. The second half consists of four petitions, which refer to ourselves. They are four -- the number which symbolises the creature. The lessons taught by the order in which these two halves occur do not need to be dwelt upon. God first and man second, His glory before our wants -- that is the true order. For how few of us is it the spontaneous order! Do we first rise to God, and only secondly descend to ourselves?Note, too, the sequence in each of these halves. In the first we may say that we begin from above and come down, or from within and come outwards. In the second, the process is the opposite. We begin on the lowest level with our external needs, and go upwards and inwards to removal of sin, exemption from temptation, and complete deliverance from evil. The first half gives us the beginning, middle, and end of God's purposes for the world. The recognition of His name is the basis of His kingdom, and His kingdom is the sphere in which alone His will is done. The second half, in like manner, gives us the beginning, middle, and end of His dealings with the individual, the common mercies of daily bread, forgiveness, guidance, protection in conflict, and final deliverance.The 'name' of God is His revealed character. He hallows it when He so acts as to make His holiness manifest. We hallow it when we regard it as the holy thing which it is. That petition is first, because the knowledge of God as He is self-revealed is the deepest want of men, and the spread of that knowledge and reverence is the way by which His kingdom comes. God's kingdom is His rule over men's hearts. Christ began His ministry by proclaiming its near approach, and in effect brought it to earth. But it spreads slowly, and the world. Therefore, this second petition is ever in place, until the consummation. God's rule is established through the hallowing of His name; for it is a rule which works on men through their understandings, and seeks no ignorant submission.The sum of this first half is, "Thy will be done, as in Heaven, so on earth." Obedience to that will is the end of God's self-revelation. It makes all the difference whether we begin with the thought of the name or of the will. In the latter case, religion will be slavish and submission sullied. There is no more horrible and paralysing conception of God than that of mere sovereign will. But if we think of Him as desiring that we should know His name, and as gathering all its syllables into the one perfect 'Word of God'; then we are sure that His will must be intelligible and good. Obedience becomes delight, and the surrender of our wills to His the glad expression of love. He who begins with 'Thy will be done' is a slave, and never really does the will at all; he who begins with 'Our Father, hallowed be Thy name,' is a son, and his will, gladly yielding, is free in surrender, strong in self-abnegation, and restless in putting the reins into God's hands.The two halves make a whole. The second, which deals with our needs, starts with the cry for bread, and climbs up slowly through the ills of life, from bodily hunger to trespasses and human unkindness and personal weakness, and a world of temptation, and the double evil of sin and of sorrow, and so reigns at last the starting-point of the first half, Heaven and God. The probable meaning of the difficult word rendered 'daily' seems to be 'sufficient for our need.' The lessons of the petition are that God's children have a claim for the supply of their wants, since He is bound, as a faithful Creator, not to send mortals without sending meat to fill them, but that our desires should be limited to our actual necessities, and our cravings, as well as our efforts for the bread that perishes, made into prayers. Such a prayer rightly used would put an end to much wicked luxury among Christians, and to many questionable ways of getting wealth. "Bless my name, my Father, who art in Heaven." If we dare not pray this prayer over what we do in "earning our living," we had better ask ourselves whether we are not rather earning what we eat. Sin is doing, in the true end of our prayers, as it is the crown of God's purpose. Nothing less can satisfy our yearnings; nothing less can fulfil the divine desire for us. Nothing less should be the goal of our faith and hope. To the height of meek assurance, and the reaching out of our souls in desire which is the pledge of its own fulfillment, Christ would have us attain on the wings of prayer. They can have no narrower bonds to the horizon of their hopes, nor any lesser blessing for the satisfaction of their longings, whose prayer begins with 'Our Father which art in heaven'; for where the Father is, the child must wish to be, and some day will be, to go out no more. Scripture Reference Across the various denominations of Christianity, there is one prayer that most practice. It is a beautiful and impactful prayer that brings unity and togetherness to the body of Christ — it is the prayer taught to us by Jesus Himself which has been termed "The Lord's Prayer." This prayer is found in two of the Gospels: Luke and Matthew. In Luke's Gospel, we find a shortened version: "Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation" (Luke 11:2-4).Although the version of the Lord's Prayer is shorter in Luke's Gospel, the wording in both is nearly identical. It makes sense that Jesus would have taught this prayer on multiple occasions to His disciples and followers. The Lord's Prayer is the prayer that Jesus taught His followers to say when they asked Him to teach them how to pray. It has been learned by the majority of Christians throughout the history of the church.What Is the Lord's Prayer?In Matthew's Gospel, during the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus preached about many topics, one of which was how to pray. It is during this portion of Jesus' sermon that He instructed the people to pray in a certain way. "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.And 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). This demonstration of prayer taught by Jesus was simple, yet it shows us how we can come to God in prayer. Jesus was often seen going away from crowds to pray and spend time with the Father. He recognized the significance of having a healthy prayer life, and practiced it regularly. It is no surprise that during His sermon on the mount, He taught the people about prayer.What Is the Context of the Lord's Prayer?Jesus taught the Lord's prayer during His sermon on the mount. The sermon on the mount is found in Luke 5-7. It is three chapters and is the longest recorded sermon given by Jesus. Scholars believe it would have taken about 10-15 minutes for Jesus to deliver this impactful, life-changing sermon. When Jesus spoke, He taught the Lord's Prayer to those who were at the sermon on the mount.Before Jesus began teaching about prayer, He was instructing the people to not practice righteousness and goodness in front of others to get recognition and praise from fellow humans. Rather they should do good and righteous things in secret and God will reward them for their obedience and faithfulness."Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven" (Matthew 6:1).It is in this context that Jesus teaches about three spiritual practices that should be done in secret to the best of our ability. The first, when His followers give to the needy and poor. The second, when they pray. The third, when they fast. All these spiritual disciplines should be done in obedience to God, not to make ourselves look good in front of others. When Jesus spoke specifically about prayer, He warned the people to not pray openly to gain attention and to not pray long prayers to impress others."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 others. Truly I tell you, 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" (Matthew 6:5-7).Humanity is prone to pride, self-centeredness, and boasting of ourselves. Jesus warned against these inclinations and to instead be righteous for God's sake and glory. Therefore, He taught them the Lord's Prayer as an example of how to keep their hearts pure before the Lord in prayer. Jesus desired that His followers pray to the Lord for the purpose of deepening their relationship with God. Prayer is an important way for people to connect with God and be in relationship with Him.What Are the Parts of the Lord's Prayer?The Lord's Prayer is composed of five distinct sections. The first, to give praise and glory to the Lord (v. 9). God has no equal. He alone is God and worthy of all praise. The second, to ask for God's kingdom to be done here on earth (v. 10). We bear the light of Jesus in a dark world and have been tasked with sharing the Gospel message of hope found in Jesus Christ. The third, to ask for God's provision and basic needs to be met (v. 11). God is our provider and takes care of all our needs. The fourth, to ask God's forgiveness of our sins just as we forgive others (v. 12). We are a forgiven people whom God has instructed to forgive others. The fifth, to ask God's help that we would avoid sin, temptation, and to not be overcome by the enemy (v.13). Truly, there is freedom and victory through Jesus Christ for those who are covered in His saving grace.These five parts of the Lord's Prayer are significant components to include whenever we pray to the Lord. God already knows what is on our hearts and minds (see Matthew 6:8), so when we pray, we don't have to be eloquent or lengthy in words. God does not want prayer to be intimidating, or a way for us to impress others. Prayer is about trust, praise, and relationship. Prayer is about God's kingdom, not building ourselves up.Prayer can bring healing, restoration, and forgiveness — but it is all through God's power, not our own.Why Does Jesus Give Us the Lord's Prayer?Jesus was intentional with His time on this earth. Nothing He did was without meaning and purpose. It is why Christians are taught to live their lives as He did. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus explained that He taught this prayer because He did not want His followers to pray to impress others or gain human praise. Jesus gave us the Lord's Prayer to teach the importance of having the right perspective and motives behind praying.He also gave us the Lord's prayer to reiterate the importance of having a prayer life. In His sermon, Jesus said, "when you pray" (Matthew 6:3), not "if you pray." Having a prayer life is not negotiable. Prayer is how Christians talk to God, hear from God, and spend time in His presence. Jesus modeled a prayer life throughout the Gospels when He found time to get away and pray. In fact, before He was arrested and crucified, He went to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. No doubt, prayer was vital to Jesus' life, and He wants the same for His followers.How Does the Lord's Prayer Guide Us in Our Own Prayer Life?Sometimes, prayer can feel intimidating. Often, people wonder how to pray or feel like they don't pray well enough. Jesus' sermon on the mount corrects those concerns. Prayer is simple. Prayer is talking to the God who loves you and wants to hear from you. If you don't know where to start, start with the Lord's Prayer. You can write it, read it, and hopefully, come to memorize it. The Lord's Prayer also teaches us significant things to include in our prayers: praise to the Lord, being part of furthering His kingdom on earth, for His provision, for forgiveness, and to avoid sin. As you work toward cultivating a prayer life, you can include these types of petitions and hopes to the Lord when you talk to Him in prayer. God loves His children and simply desires that we come to Him in prayer. The apostle Paul put it this way when he wrote to the church of Philippi:"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:6-7).We can bring anything to God — just start by praying no matter what is going on in your mind, heart, or life. Prayer can accomplish big things in us — healing, restoration, provision, and most of all, prayer gives us the peace of God in the midst of whatever we face. What a promise God has made to us!The Lord's Prayer is a powerful prayer that comes from the very mouth of Jesus. It has taught Christians how to pray since the beginning of the church, and continues to minister throughout all generations of believers across denominational lines. The Lord's Prayer brings us together as the body of Christ. Through it, we are taught how to pray, and we are taught how vital prayer is to a life lived for God. Photo credit: ©Getty Images/Lemon. InPamela Palmer is a writer, speaker, and the founder of upheldlife.com, the platform on which she produces devotionals and faith resources to inspire and keep faith at the center of life. She is in pastoral ministry and gets to share in the emotional and spiritual lives of others. She lives and thrives on Jesus, coffee, and music. She is the author of Living a Deeper Faith: Nurture Your Relationship with God and Live a Faith-Fueled Life. Pamela married the perfect man for her and they have two beautiful kiddos. She has been published on herviewfromhome.com, and you can follow her at upheldlife.com or on Facebook.com/upheldlife. Think about it. The Lord's Prayer can be divided into seven prayers: 1) Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. God is a parent, full of that parental love. Some people may trouble with "Our Father" because, well, they had a flawed dad or even mom. No matter. You have God. And God is here on earth. We honor that presence with those words "hallowed be thy name." In the Jewish tradition the Lord's name isn't even spoken aloud. How holy is that? 2) Thy kingdom come. Three precious words to express that inner yearning for God's reign to be established now, right now. On earth. Look around you. See it in the kindness of a friend, the love of a neighbor, the compassion for the poor. Feel it in the natural realm—the wind, the rain, the sun. The world is evolving. Pray for it to be on the right side of love. 3) Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. These words echo Jesus' words prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane in the agony leading up to the Crucifixion and would be appropriate to use at the end of every prayer, especially with that ender, "on earth as it is in heaven." Bringing heaven down to earth. After all God is in everything. We just need to see it. 4) Give us this day our daily bread. My favorite petition. We pray collectively for every person's daily bread. Honoring the Son who shared wine and bread at the Last Supper. No hoarding here. Just enough for bread and maybe some for the morning. Our daily bread. 5) Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Or "trespasses" or "sins" or "wrongs." It's a quid pro quo: we forgive as we have been forgiven. That means that insulting thing somebody said against you. Or the sibling who took something of Mom's after she died before even asking if you wanted it. Or the church member who talked your ear off in church. Forgive, forgive, forgive. You forgive me, I forgive them. 6) Lead us not into temptation. The Lord knows our weaknesses. He knows our vulnerabilities. We can follow the right path knowing the Lord is looking out for us. Listen for those inner voices that say, "Not that, not this...that." Listen. 7) But deliver us from evil. Evils are all around us, and in some of the most tempting guises. How else would they lure us? Wealth, status, success, Gosh, that sounds great. But at what cost? God's own goodness is free. No interest charged. What better bargain could be there? Those are the seven prayers, and it'd be hard to top them—and the depth of them—in any situation. If someone asks if you've prayed today, say "Sure, I said the Lord's Prayer." That's saying it all. More than anything. During Christ's earthly ministries, He did so many marvelous things. It's stated by (John 21:25) that no book could have been big enough to contain all the signs, wonders, and miraculous operations, which were performed by Him. He preached to large number of individuals and was the most eloquent, the best, the most dynamic, and the greatest preacher that ever lived. Most importantly, He was the incarnate Word of God (John 1:1; Revelation 19:13). One thing that was quite noticeable during His ministries was His strong consistent commitment to prayer. Many times in the gospel books, it's recorded that Jesus had to seclude Himself completely from the vast crowds in order for Him to go to a private place to pray to God for long extended period of time. So He was truly a mighty man of prayer. Was it an obligation for Jesus to have always prayed to God the Father while being God Himself in every way? Well, the answer to that question is a big NO, but as the Son of God and being fully human had to rely on God the Father for both guidance and sustenance just as children need to rely on their earthly father. What about us? His constant prayer life clearly shows how much more we need to seek God's face ourselves through persistent prayer. If Jesus Himself needed it by investing countless amount of time in it; therefore, we surely need it ourselves to sustain our daily walk with God. Have you ever thought about the fact that prayer is the fuel that propels your relationship with God? The reason is that communication is one of the main pillars of having a healthy relationship with someone. So it's where you get into real intimacy with your heavenly Father by humbly pouring out your heart to Him. Prayer isn't all about just asking God for material things that we want on a constant basis. It's a time in which we reverse Him because of who He is. Prayer is about us submitting and humbling ourselves before God in order for Him to have His way in us for His own glory. Prayer is predicated entirely on God's willingness to unleash in our lives the very things, stand within His sovereign will for us. So it's a time where we acknowledge Him by putting Him and His perfect will first. Most importantly, prayer empowers us to do the will of God on this earth. In short, prayer is based on us allowing God to be whom He wants to be in our lives. Lastly, it's also a great time of cleansing and purging from sin (1 John 1:9). What The Lord's Prayer Is All About? The Lord's prayer model is the most famous prayer model found in the Word of God. It was given by Christ while teaching concerning various subjects about the glorious kingdom of God on the mount. It's the most widely used prayer model found in Scripture. So let's read and dissect what it actually means. Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen (Matthew 6:9-13). Upon closer analysis of that prayer, we find 7 key components in it that can drastically help us to strengthen our prayer life, which will be covered individually in this publication. 1) Acknowledgement Of His Dwelling Place God is known as our heavenly Father. Although, His presence is everywhere, but His dwelling place is in heaven. He is seated on His holy throne better known as the throne of grace (Hebrews 4:16). His throne is the center of all authority, power, dominion, and blessings. That's where He rules the entire universe. Beloved, it's such a magnificent privilege that we have as humans to be able to address the infinite and Almighty God in a father and son type of relationship. And when we go to God with our needs and reverently ask Him to answer them, He delights in hearing us as His children whom He loves so much. 2) Reverence To His Holy Name Within this prayer model, we express our deepest and sincerest respect for the name of God by revering His name as holy. There's truly something of great significance about His name (Ezekiel 20:9; Isaiah 48:9-11). And it's a sin to use His name in vain (Exodus 20:7). So we must be very careful concerning that issue. Besides, nobody would ever be pleased if someone else was using their name in an improper and disrespectful manner so is a holy and righteous God. 3) May His Kingdom Come And Will Be Done The next thing we do is to acknowledge His kingdom and His absolute sovereignty over everything. His kingdom is the very embodiment of His rulership on the whole universe. So this compels us to think about the idea that prayer isn't only about the things that we want to receive from God or what we want but what He wants us to have according to His perfect will and timing. It's not an easy task to accept the will of God when struggling with a particular unpleasant issue while all we want is to get out as soon as possible. But the question we can sincerely ask ourselves is that do we truly have our best interests at heart more than God Himself who has not only made us in His own image but who has perfect knowledge concerning everything about us and our needs? The kingdom that Christ was referring to in His teaching had already been into existence even before His ministry started, but it was revealed to mankind during His earthly ministry (Mark 1:15). That kingdom has two major aspects: a spiritual and a physical aspect. We as the church are the very embodiment of that kingdom in the physical realm. So the key principles found in the Word of God that we must follow as citizens of God's kingdom originated from that kingdom. Doing the will of God starts first with us as His children by doing the things He wants us to do for His glory through obedience. It also means that when we're doing the will of God here on earth, that's a pure reflection of what His kingdom is all about. Doing the will of God is tantamount to inviting the kingdom of God to repel the kingdom of darkness in our lives and the lives of others. Most importantly, it's the kingdom that we must seek above all else according to (Matthew 6:33). Nevertheless, we also need to realize that there's another kingdom known as the kingdom of darkness governed by Satan along with his fallen angels and demons (Colossians 1:13; Matthew 12:26). The great news is that the glorious kingdom of God will come and overcome the kingdom of darkness that we're fighting against (Revelation 20:2-3; Revelation 20:10; Hebrews 10:13; Romans 16:20). So the kingdom of God will one day eradicate the kingdom of darkness once for all. That's what Christ is actually asking us to pray about in this prayer model. 4) Acknowledging God As The Source Of Our Needs Another important thing that we should do is to recognize God as the source of all our needs. Meaning that we're to rely on Him in the sense that He'll meet all our needs in accordance with His riches in glory by Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:19). Giving us our daily bread is not only about feeding us physically but spiritually as well. So His rich and sufficient provisions take care of both major aspects of our being, which are the physical and the spiritual aspect. 5) Seeking God's forgiveness as we Are Forgiving Others We're to seek His forgiveness for our sins as we're forgiving those who've sinned against us. The lesson through that passage is quite clear. We cannot sow unforgiveness to others and reap forgiveness from God. We cannot keep on holding grudges against those who've sinned against us constantly while asking God to forgive us of our sins (Matthew 6:15). So it should start from us by letting go of anything that we may have held against others in our hearts. Bear in mind, unforgiveness is a very dangerous thing to hold onto since it has the potential to poison our relationship with God and those around us, along with our prayer life. 6) Preserving us From Temptation We are to pray to God in order for Him to preserve us from temptation which is the starting point of every sin. Temptation is not a sin by itself but yielding to it is what gives birth to sin. Temptation is commonplace; in other words, it's out there for everyone. However, God has promised us in (1 Corinthians 10:13) that He'll never allow us to be tempted in such a way that surpasses our ability to cope with it. And when we find ourselves going through temptation, He'll empower us to endure it until we make it out safely. It's a very important verse that we have to grab a hold of as people who're dealing with temptation on a regular basis. There is immense power in prayer. The enemy knows that fairly well. Prayer renews, empowers, and reanimates the soul by the infinite power of God. This then enables us to subdue the desires of the flesh through which Satan and his demons thrive in people's lives. We cannot afford to underestimate the power of prayer by taking it as just a routine or by being lazy, ignorant, or negligent to the extent that it loses its real purpose in our lives. 7) Attributing The Very Things Due To Only Him Lastly, we end that prayer by acknowledging His kingdom, absolute dominion and power, and glory due to only Him forever. So we begin this prayer model with worshipping His holy name and end it by attributing to Him the key features that make Him whom He is. Things like dominion, power, and glory are the very divine attributes that make God weighty. It's a prayer model centered on Him in the context of whom He is, how He operates, how He sees us as His children, and what He wants us to do in order to conform us to His ways by empowering us to walk in total victory on our enemy as we're getting to know Him better. Conclusion This prayer model is given not to be used exactly as it is on every occasion, nor is it something that we have to memorize in order to recite it back to God, but to show us the kind of things that we need to pray about. So we're free to shape it and customize it however we like to make it applicable to our daily situation as long it's done in a God-honoring fashion. The Lord's Prayer, often referred to as the Our Father, is a central element of Christian worship and liturgy. It embodies the essence of Jesus' teachings and serves as a model for prayer. Found in the Gospels of Matthew (6:9-13) and Luke (11:2-4), this prayer is not merely a recitation but a profound guide for understanding one's relationship with God and the world. In this blog post, we will explore the seven parts of the Lord's Prayer, unravelling their meanings and significance. 1. Addressing the FatherThe FatherThe prayer begins with the address, "Our Father, who art in heaven." This opening establishes an intimate relationship between the believer and God. By calling God "Father," Jesus encourages an understanding of God not just as a distant deity, but as a loving and caring presence. The collective "Our" signifies a shared relationship and community among believers, inviting us to pray not just for ourselves but for others as well. The mention of "in heaven" underscores God's transcendence, reminding us that while God is intimately involved in our lives, He exists beyond the earthly realm.2. The Call to ReverenceThe second part states, "Hallowed be thy name." Here, we honor and revere God's name, acknowledging His holiness and majesty. This phrase invites us to reflect on the significance of God's name, which embodies His character, attributes, and presence. In recognizing the holiness of God, we become more aware of our need for humility, respect, and a deep reverence in our approach to Him.3. The Desire for God's KingdomThe prayer continues with, "Thy kingdom come." This part expresses a longing for the establishment of God's kingdom on earth, reflecting our hope for a future where God's will reigns supreme. It serves as a reminder that our prayers should align with God's purposes. By praying for His kingdom to come, we invite His justice, peace, and love into our lives and the world around us, echoing Jesus' call to work toward a more compassionate and just society.Next, we say, "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." This line emphasizes the surrender to God's divine plan, recognizing that His wisdom surpasses our understanding. It encourages us to align our desires with God's will, embracing the understanding that His plans are always for our good. By seeking His divine guidance, we cultivate a spirit of trust and faith, allowing God to work through us in fulfilling His purpose.5. Daily ProvisionThe prayer shifts focus to our daily needs with the phrase, "Give us this day our daily bread." This part acknowledges our dependence on God for sustenance and provision. By asking for "daily bread," we are reminded to rely on God not just for physical nourishment but also for spiritual sustenance. This line encourages gratitude for the blessings we often take for granted and emphasizes the importance of living in the present, trusting that God will provide what we need each day.6. Seeking Forgiveness"Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us" is a pivotal part of the prayer. It recognizes our imperfections and the need for God's grace while simultaneously calling us to extend forgiveness to others. This dual request for forgiveness highlights the core Christian principle of mercy and reconciliation. It urges us to let go of grudges and resentment, fostering a spirit of compassion and understanding within our communities.7. Deliverance from EvilThe prayer concludes with the plea, "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." This final part emphasizes our reliance on God for spiritual protection. It acknowledges that life can be fraught with challenges and moral dilemmas, and we seek God's guidance to navigate these difficulties. By asking for deliverance from evil, we reaffirm our commitment to live according to God's principles and to seek His strength in facing life's trials.ConclusionAs we delve deeper into its meanings, we find that this prayer is not just a set of words to recite, but a powerful framework for connecting with the divine, nurturing our spiritual growth, and fostering a sense of community among believers. Keeping its teachings in mind can help us develop a more profound and vibrant prayer life, ultimately leading us closer to the heart of God. Jesus' disciples recognized the power of prayer and asked him to teach them to pray just like John the Baptist taught his disciples (Luke 11:1). They heard Jesus pray and wanted to know how to pray in a way that would always get them results.Jesus taught them what we call today, "The Lord's Prayer" which features in Matthew 6:9-13 and Luke 11:2-4. The Lord's Prayer is a model prayer Jesus used to show us what's important when saying a prayer.Today we want to break down the prayer and describe each part.Jesus was showing his disciples that we address prayers to God as our Father. When we pray, we talk to a loving Father who is eager to meet the needs of his children which they bring before him."Hallowed" means "made holy or honored." We honor God's name as above every name and recognize it as holy and majestic.The name of the Lord is our hope and salvation and it shows us who God is to us.We long for the Kingdom of God to come to every part of the earth. God's desire is that we seek his kingdom first above all else because everything we look for is in it.When God manifests his kingdom on earth, it sets things right in the world.God wants his will manifested on earth and when we pray this part, we open the way for God to do his will.The Bible has God's will for everything we face today and when we pray the Scriptures, he does what he desires in every situation in our lives. We are to ask God in prayer to meet our needs, physical and otherwise. This includes food, clothes, shelter and all other things we need to live a godly and content life. We are to repent for our sins and seek God's forgiveness.We approach God with a pure heart and this includes forgiving others who have offended us. Here, we are asking our Father to keep us away from the temptation to sin. He has promised that he will not let us face temptation beyond what we can bear. He is always ready to turn us away from temptation as part of our prayers, we are to pray for God's protection over our lives and those of our families. We have an enemy who wants to devour us every opportunity he gets but God is there to watch over us daily. The Lord's prayer outlines the important aspects of a prayer lifted to God in faith. When we pray using the principles Jesus taught in this prayer, our prayers are wholesome and touch the Father's heart. RESOURCES FELLOWS PROGRAM STUDY COURSES EVENTS ABOUT GIVE

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