



Sermons of the Savior

Matthew 6:9

Lesson 7

Jesus, in previous verses, forbade using vain repetitions in our prayers. Jesus did not give this prayer to us to be memorized and recited a given number of times. In fact, He gave this prayer to keep us from using vain repetitions. Jesus did not say, "Pray in these words." He said, "Pray in this manner"; that is, "Use this prayer as a pattern, not as a substitute". Although this prayer is known chiefly as the Lord's Prayer, it is also aptly titled "The Model Prayer". In this lesson we will look at the manner in which our prayers should begin, recognizing God as our Father and adoring Him for His holiness.

OBSERVATION: Read Matthew 6:9-13

1. Although we are focusing on Matthew 6:9 in this lesson, read the entire prayer using both your Observation Worksheet (the last page of this homework) and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they were about?
2. Key words help us to better understand the verses. We have listed below key words. Mark each one in a distinctive way (either with a symbol, highlighting, or some form of boxing, circling, or underlining). Mark each of the key words each time they are used in the text.

Please note: we will be using the Observation Worksheet at the end of this lesson each week that we study the Lord's Prayer.

Key Words: *Father* (and any words that refer to Him)
our, us, we (mark each of these words the same way)

3. What is acknowledged about the *Father* in this *prayer*?
4. What is requested of the *Father* in this *prayer*?
5. Jot down any questions or observations you have.
 - a. What is one thing you hope to learn more about as we study this *prayer*?

CONSIDER THESE THINGS:

1. Many of us were exposed to the *Lord's Prayer* as children. What did you think this *prayer* was about?
2. What was your favorite part of the *Lord's Prayer*?
3. Although *prayer* is sometimes referred to as simply "talking to God", what do we need to be taught about *prayer*?

IN THIS MANNER, THEREFORE, PRAY

1. Matthew 6:9 begins with the words, *In this manner*. If someone used the words *in this manner*, there would likely be several interpretations of what was expected, ranging from "this is a loose guideline" to "do it exactly like this". Why do you think it is important to understand Jesus' intention behind the words?
 - a. The phrase *in this manner* has been interpreted as "likewise, in this fashion, after this manner, in this way and this is how". Notice the word *therefore* in this verse, which implies what Jesus is saying is based on what He has just declared. To gain further understanding, read the previous verses about *prayer* in Matthew 6:7. What are we **not** to do?
 - 1.) How does this help you understand that Jesus was not teaching us to repeat this prayer word for word?
2. We are not taught in the Bible many things about prayer, such as the physical position we are to take, the time of day we are to pray, etc. Consider the different prayers in the Bible. What are some of the positions people took when they prayed?
 - a. What times of the day did people pray?
3. What have you learned about the importance of "what you pray", "how" or "when" you pray?

OUR FATHER

1. Jesus begins by revealing to us the privilege we have to call God *Father*. Only believers have this privilege. When did we receive this right? see John 1:12
 - a. What does 1 John 2:23 tell us about those who *deny the Son* (Jesus)?

2. The New Testament uses two Greek words for the word *Father*. What word is used in Romans 8:15?
 - a. *Abba* signifies a familiar, rather than formal, word for *Father*, much like we would use the word "Daddy". It is the word Jesus used most often to address the *Father*. God did not randomly choose this name. What are the characteristics of a good father?
 - 1.) In what ways is God a good *Father*?

3. In approaching God as *Father*, what privileges do you have as His child?
 - a. What are you acknowledging about your relationship with Him?

4. Record the words of the prodigal son in Luke 15:18.
 - a. What tenderness and security do you sense in the *prodigal's* use of the word *Father*?

5. Paul often used the phrases like *Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ*. God is no respecter of persons; He does not favor one believer over another. What are your thoughts as you contemplate the words of Paul, *God our Father*, bringing together all believers into one family?

6. Why is beginning *prayer* with the word *Father* a very good place to start?

IN HEAVEN

1. The Bible often states that *heaven* is God's dwelling place. Record what the following verses reveal about *heaven*:

Psalm 11:4

Psalm 20:6

Psalm 33:13

Psalm 102:19

Psalm 113:5

Isaiah 57:15

- a. How does it help you to remind yourself of these truths when you *pray*?
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2. What is the advice of King Solomon in Ecclesiastes 5:2?
 - a. Write this advice in your own words.
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3. How do the words *Our Father in heaven* distinguish the true and living God from all others?
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4. Where is the *citizenship* of every believer? see Philippians 3:20
 - a. What are some things awaiting you in *heaven*?
 - b. How does the reminder of *heaven* change some of the things you might tend to *pray* for?
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5. Combine the phrases *Our Father* and *in heaven*. What are you praying when you say *Our Father in heaven*?

HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME

1. We have seen our relationship with God in acknowledging Him as *our Father*. We acknowledge His power when we remind ourselves that He reigns and rules in heaven. Next we are to view His *holiness* in praying *hallowed be Your name*. Define the word *hallowed*.
 - a. The Greek word translated as *hallowed* in Matthew 6:9 is translated as *sanctify* in 1 Peter 3:15. What did Peter write?
 - 1.) God's name is not only *holy*, but we are also called to *sanctify* His name as *holy*. We are to set it apart as *holy*; we are to respect His name as *holy*; His name is to be held in reverence. Why is this important to understand?
2. Why is it important to you to know that God is not only powerful, but that He is pure and perfect in all that He does?
3. God's names are *holy*. They are names that are set apart only for Him. What are some names or characteristics of God that are exclusive to Him?
4. Bask in His *holiness* as you record the words of the following verses:

Exodus 15:11

Leviticus 10:3

Ezekiel 36:23

I Timothy 6:16

Revelation 4:8

 - a. How does basking in His *holiness* and *sanctifying* His name effect your prayers?

REVIEW: Read Matthew 6:9

1. Share something you learned from this lesson about:

The *manner* we are to *pray*

Approaching God as your *Father*

Remembering God dwells *in heaven*

Hallowing God's name

2. In what ways has the *manner* in which you *pray* been challenged by this lesson?

... *Grace and peace from God **our Father** and the Lord Jesus Christ...*
1 Corinthians 1:3, 2 Corinthians 1:2, Galatians 1:3, Ephesians 1:2, Philippians 1:2, Colossians 1:2,
1 Thessalonians 1:1, 2 Thessalonians 1:2, 1 Timothy 1:2, 2 Timothy 1:2, Titus 1:4, Philemon 1:3

Do you think Paul was trying to tell believers something? 😊

Observation Worksheet

Matthew 6:9-13

⁹ In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. ¹⁰ Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as *it is* in heaven. ¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread. ¹² And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. ¹³ And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.



¹⁴ "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.
¹⁵ But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.