

Father Knows Best – The Privilege of Prayer to God the Father!

Matthew 6:9-13

by Pastor Dan Dickerson

Introduction

- If as a Father's Day gift you could speak for 30 minutes with anyone from the past, present or future, who would it be? What would you say?
- If you could speak directly to God the Father what would you say?
- God's gift to Dad's, Mom's and everyone present is a teaching lesson from Jesus on **how to talk to God the Father daily.**
- **God is teaching us to be transformed by the daily privilege of talking directly to God the Father!**
- Here is what to say. Start here and add your own words. The Disciples asked Jesus, "...teach us to pray" (Luke 11:1)

1. The miracle of **relationship** – Matthew 6: 9 "After this manner therefore pray ye: **Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.**"

- Praise God for His power to make spiritually dead sinners spiritually alive through faith in Jesus Ephesians 2:1-6
- Praise God for the miracle of the new birth – John 3:3,5,16; 1:12; Romans 5:8; Ephesians 2:8-9
- Praise God for the new covenant relationship of access, family and community – Ephesians 2:18; 1 John 3:1; Matthew 4:18-20

2. The privilege of worship and **praise** – Matthew 6: 9 "After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, **Hallowed be thy name.**"

- Believers attribute the worth deserved to God's holy name and person.
- Believers enter into God's presence with praise – Psalm 100:4

3. The exercise of **faith** – Matthew 6: 10 "**Thy kingdom come.** Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven."

- We believe the future earthly and eternal kingdom is sure – Matthew 8:11
- We believe all evil will be destroyed in the new heaven and new earth – Revelation 21:1,4-5
- We believe God's present spiritual kingdom reign and rule in believer's hearts is real – Genesis 15:6; Romans 4:3
- We pray for God to send his rule now into a broken world with broken hearts, families, governments and worldviews.

4. The active submission of my **will** to God's will – Matthew 6: 10 "Thy kingdom come. **Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.**"

- We do not cave into Satan's powers at work in our present broken and sinful world.
- We ask God to glorify Christ and Himself now and in the future through believers.
- We take seriously our responsibility to pray and serve as God leads and empowers. We are asking God for power to witness (Acts 1:8), for boldness (Acts 4:29; Ephesians 6:19), for disciples to be made (Matthew 28:18-20), and much fruit that remains to the glory of God the Father (John 15:8, 16).

5. Requests for daily **physical, temporal and spiritual need** – Matthew 6: 11 "**Give us this day our daily bread.**"

- God took on a body in the person of His Son and He understands hunger, thirst, pain, weariness, grief and loss.
- God is our provider and sustainer.

- God is the source of physical strength and meets our daily needs including spiritual needs for wisdom (James 1:5), strength (Philippians 4:13), and leadership (Romans 8:14).
- We did not create ourselves and we are not self-sufficient (2 Corinthians 12:9).

6. Requests for the spiritual need of forgiveness of **sin** – Matthew 6: 12 “**And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.**”

- Believers in Jesus have once for all justification and positional righteousness – Romans 5:1; John 1:1
- Believers are now the children of God – 1 John 3:2
- Believers need daily fellowship, forgiveness and righteousness in our walk of faith with God our Father 1 John 1:8-9
- We are not saved by forgiving others, we receive forgiveness by grace through faith in Christ Ephesians 2:8-9
- Believers see ourselves on common ground with all sinners needing God's grace. The forgiveness of all our sins is much greater than any personal sin against us. There is not room for grudges or an unforgiving spirit.

7. Requests for the spiritual need of help and victory over **temptation** and the power of sin daily – Matthew 6:13 “**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.**”

- Lord, do not allow us to be tempted above what we are able, show us the way of escape – 1 Corinthians 10:13
- Lord deliver us, protect us and strengthen us to overcome.

8. The beginning and ending of prayer with **praise** – Matthew 6:13 “**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.**”

- We acknowledge God's Kingdom above all others - thine is the kingdom
- We acknowledge our total dependence on God – thine is the power
- We acknowledge total praise and glory as belonging to God forever – thine is the glory, for ever

Application

- I now affirm my hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness!
- I will seek to begin and close my prayers with praise!
- I will seek God's kingdom and will in my life.
- I will go to God in prayer for my temporal and spiritual needs.
- I will confess the sins of prayerlessness, prideful unbelief and self-sufficiency.
- **I will seek to be transformed by the daily privilege of talking directly to God the Father!**

Discussion as a family or small group

- Why is it so dangerous to trust in anything for salvation other than Jesus blood and righteousness?
- Do we regularly open and close our prayers with praise to God? Why or why not?
- Do I daily pray for God's kingdom reign and will in my life? What might help me to remember to do this?
- Do I daily go to God to see both my physical and spiritual needs met? What are my most urgent physical and spiritual needs?
- Do I as an individual and we as a group need to confess sins of prayerlessness, prideful unbelief or self-sufficiency?
- Will I seek to be transformed by the daily privilege of talking directly to God the Father!
- Close in popcorn prayer, each praying for one thing, as led by God's Spirit, and allowing another to pray and each person praying more than once as led by God's Spirit. Pray for a revival of life transforming prayer to become a vital part of our lives, families, churches, communities, nation and world.