

Prayer: The Divine Dialogue - Part 6: The Pattern of Prayer (Part 2)

March 2, 2016

REVIEW: **1st week - Practice**

2nd week - (Overcoming) The Problems of Prayer **Romans 8**

²⁶ In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. ²⁷ And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will.

3rd week - The Posture/Position of Prayer

4th week - The PASSION of Prayer Obligation or privilege?

5th week - LAST WEEK: The Pattern of Prayer (Part 1)

Probably three parts:
Jesus' specific instructions for Prayer
Biblical and Historical Prayers and Creeds
Prayer in and of the Spirit - Spirit as intercessor

REVIEW:
“How” ... a pattern or a form of something that can prove useful in reproducing or creating the real item

Luke 11:1
One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.”

Those disciples understood that Jesus' vital connection to the Father, through prayer, was at least one catalyst for the miracles they witnessed.

John 5:19
Jesus gave them this answer: "I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does."

Within his teaching - the Beatitudes - he included these instructions about prayer ...

Matthew 6:5–8

⁵ “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. ⁶ 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. ⁷ And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. ⁸ Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

“WHEN YOU PRAY...”

BEFORE MEN OR BEFORE GOD
UNSEEN ASPECT
WHAT IS DONE IN SECRET

NO NEED FOR REPETITION

How unsatisfying this

Power of repetition

An argument

Kids

“they THINK they will be heard ... “

“your heavenly Father KNOWS what you need before you ask”

There is vain repetition but then there is persistence ...

NOTE THE WORD “**how**” ... not “**what**” ... again, putting forth a pattern of HOW to pray

Matthew 6:9–13

9 “This, then, is how you should 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 today our daily bread.

12 Forgive us our debts,

as we also have forgiven our debtors.

13 And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from the evil one.’

The Principle Elements

Notice the **order** of the elements that make up this prayer:

- Paternity - “our Father”
- Position - “in heaven”

- Praise - “hallowed be your name”
- Priority - “your kingdom come”
- Petition - “give us this day”
- Penitence/repentance - “forgive us”
- Patience - penitence extended - “forgive them”
- Protection - “lead us not” - “deliver us”

If this is Jesus' pattern of prayer for His disciples... then might it be that ALL of our prayers should ... in some form be not too divergent from this ...

PATERNITY

OUR - Jesus CONNECTING NOT JUST Himself to the Father but connecting US to the Father as well

John 17:20–23

²⁰“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, ²¹that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²²I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: ²³I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

Our ... how we relate to God AND how we relate to one another

Ephesians 1:9–10 (NIV84)

⁹ And he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, ¹⁰to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment—to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ.

Father - choice of words

Not any of the Hebrew names for God
But identifying Him and addressing as Father
A term of intimacy

Paternal, personal, intimate

Moms are moms ... BUT ...

Fathers protect
Fathers provide
Fathers bless

Romans 8:14–17

¹⁴ because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, “*Abba, Father.*” ¹⁶ The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. ¹⁷ Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

OUR FATHER ... where?

IN HEAVEN

Place not here ... our fellowship with the Father is through His indwelling SPIRIT inside of us

But the Father ... unique and above ...

Place and position of all authority

IMPORTANT - Points us upward not inward
Turning our eyes away from ourselves.

Praying to a God ... in Heaven ... also ties our HOPE to the eternal
Hope is always tied something eternal. We don’t hear a great deal about “heaven”.
Eternity is real and we need to have an eternal orientation that informs how we do life.
What am I storing up in heaven?

Titus 1:1–16

Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ for the faith of God’s elect and the knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness—² a faith and knowledge **resting** on the **hope of eternal life**, which God, who does not lie, promised before the beginning of time,

PRAISE - HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME

Hallow—to render sacred, to consecrate (Ex. 28:38; 29:1). This word is from the Saxon, and properly means “to make holy.” The name of God is “hallowed”, i.e., is reverenced as holy (Matt. 6:9). We set it apart.

There is a reverence for Him by which we set apart His name so as to set Him apart in our lives & orientation.

Exodus 20:7

⁷ “You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.

Not just cussing ...

It is dismissive or casual or disobedient

Psalm 8:1

O Lord, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.

Philippians 2

9 Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

Proverbs 18:10

¹⁰ The name of the Lord is a strong tower;
the righteous run to it and are safe

This name ... this hallowed, set apart name also defines position and ... DEMANDS PRAISE.

Position demands praise

Isaiah 6:1–5

“In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple. ² Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. ³ And they were calling to one another:

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty;
the whole earth is full of his glory.”

⁴ At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke.

⁵ “Woe to me!” I cried. “I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty.”

We need a fresh and CONTINUAL revelation of exactly what Isaiah saw and experienced ... such a vision puts in perspective the reality of God's holiness. Seeing in this way lifts our attention and our heart focus upon what they needs to be upon.

PRIORITY

**YOUR KINGDOM COME
YOUR WILL BE DONE
ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN**

THIS was and is what Jesus' visit and the Gospel are about.

Not just about your salvation or your sanctification ... but the priority of God and the establishment of His Kingdom on the earth.

Too often we just say the words and never ponder the gravity of what is being said. It is essential to get ahold of this: He came to establish the Kingdom and our salvation is a result of that Kingdom being established.

Matthew 6:33

“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be added ... “

The Kingdom is NOT JUST about a system of order or the imposition of heavenly blessing into the temporal ...

Kingdom is first and foremost about a KING and a KING is always about a hierarchy and AUTHORITY

That authority, whether the authority He has placed in Scripture, or His authority on a personal level through our obedience ... is Kingdom

The Kingdom is not about the benefits, the provision that comes. Rather, the issue is one of who is in charge and how we relate properly to that hierarchy and the authority. To have the benefit & reality of the Kingdom, it begins with and rests upon how we relate to the authority that declares God's authority. The Word of God sets out His authority, declaring Who and how He is.

YOUR WILL BE DONE

A KING ... GETS HIS WAY ... peacefully or otherwise ...

On earth as it is in heaven ...

In heaven there is ABSOLUTELY no questioning of authority ... EVERYTHING is about the throne and He who sits upon it ...

Heaven is not about our blessing, our preferences or our comfort ... Heaven is first and foremost a dwelling place for God ... everything else is subsequent and consequential to His glory and His mercy ...

This is the essence of the prayer ...

**YOUR KINGDOM COME
YOUR WILL BE DONE
ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN**

This is the component of the pattern of prayer that KEEPS US **FOCUSED ON GOD** rather than us ... Your Kingdom, your will...your earth, your world.

“These first three petitions, though they focus on God’s name, God’s kingdom, and God’s will, are nevertheless prayers that he may act in such a way that his people will hallow his name, submit to his reign, and do his will. It is therefore impossible to pray this prayer in sincerity without humbly committing oneself to such a course.”

Carson, D. A. (1984). Matthew. In F. E. Gaebelein (Ed.), *The Expositor’s Bible Commentary: Matthew, Mark, Luke* (Vol. 8, pp. 170–171). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House.

The will of God, the Kingdom and its relationship with this world — the heart of this prayer; the hinge around which this prayer turns.

BUT ... 2nd part ... where we get personal

PETITION - “give us ... this day ... our daily bread”

“The prayer is for our needs, not our greeds. It is for one day at a time (“today”), reflecting the precarious lifestyle of many first-century workers who were paid one day at a time and for whom a few days’ illness could spell tragedy.”

Carson, D. A. (1984). Matthew. In F. E. Gaebelein (Ed.), *The Expositor’s Bible Commentary: Matthew, Mark, Luke* (Vol. 8, p. 171). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House.

Manna ... daily provision, daily gathering: Like grace ... daily portion ... dispensed/received. The grace of God is like that manna, it melts in the heat of the day. We have to go and pick up the grace that is for today and needs to be found as the first thing.

We are INSTRUCTED to ask ... BUT ... within the context of His paternity, His providence and His allotted provision ...

Sometimes we ask for what is beyond the allotted provision God has for us. God gives us that which is according to His paternity for us, His father’s love. When God provides for us it further manifests His paternity in our lives. He delights in making provision because as He does so, He shows forth His paternity.

Matthew 6:5–8

⁸ Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

Matthew 7:7–11

⁷ Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.

⁹ “Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? ¹⁰ Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? ¹¹ If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!

Matthew 6:25–34

²⁵ “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? ²⁷ Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?

²⁸ “And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. ²⁹ Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. ³⁰ If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? ³¹ So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³² For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. ³³ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Psalm 37:25–26

²⁵ I was young and now I am old,
yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken
or their children begging bread.

²⁶ They are always generous and lend freely;
their children will be blessed.

We ask ... but because we are sons ... we do not have to beg or plead for daily bread

Then we have instructions on relationships ...

First, getting ourselves right with God - “Forgive us our debts”

We have debts outstanding that we cannot satisfy and have to ask that the debt be forgiven ... and what is forgiven is forgotten ...

PENITENCE/REPENTANCE

Penitence shares the same Latin root as the verb *repent*, which means “to express regret.” It’s also connected to the word *penitentiary*, another word for prison.

“As we have forgiven our debtors”

Penitence extended/Patience and forbearance

Matthew 18:23–35

²¹ Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?” ²² Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

²³ “Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him. ²⁵ Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

²⁶ “The servant fell on his knees before him. ‘Be patient with me,’ he begged, ‘and I will pay back everything.’ ²⁷ The servant’s master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

²⁸ “But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii. He grabbed him and began to choke him. ‘Pay back what you owe me!’ he demanded.

²⁹ “His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay you back.’

³⁰ “But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. ³¹ When the other servants saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed and went and told their master everything that had happened.

³² “Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. ³³ Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ ³⁴ In anger his master turned him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

³⁵ “This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart.”

Forgive them ... then forbear with them — we remain in a place where we can be hurt again.

Colossians 3:12–14

¹² Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³ **Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another.** Forgive as the Lord forgave you. ¹⁴ And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

1 Peter 4:7–8

⁷ The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray. ⁸ Above all, **love each other deeply**, because love covers over a multitude of sins.

“Love each other deeply” ... means when we forgive, we forgive deeply

Penitence shares the same Latin root as the verb *repent*, which means “to express regret.” It’s also connected to the word *penitentiary*, another word for prison.

Unforgiveness locks us up and bring upon us a self-imposed curse.

Two sides of the same coin
We are forgiven AND we forgive

Otherwise ... we bring a self-imposed curse upon us. If we refuse to forgive, we lock ourselves up. Forgiveness is a gift that God must give us; we need to forgive with a forgiveness that God only can give us and work through us. Your pain is simply the indication of an area where the Blood of Christ has reached.

Like our arm when it has been cut off from blood flow, it is lifeless and we experience pain as blood returns. Though there is pain, we must receive the Blood of Christ that has been cut off. Our lameness and sickness is due to the fact that we have circulatory problems...The truth of Christ, the truth of God's Word isn't getting to and addressing what needs that life administered to it.

Matthew 6:14–15

¹⁴ For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵ But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

PROTECTION

**“lead us not into temptation (by the devil)”
“but deliver us from evil”**

“lead us not into temptation”

It also may be that we are forcing this sixth petition into too rigid a mold. The NT tells us that this age will be characterized by wars and rumors of wars (see on 24:6) but does not find it incongruous to urge us to pray for those in authority so “that we may live peaceful and quiet lives” (1 Tim 2:2). While Jesus told his disciples to rejoice when persecuted (Mt 5:10–12) he nevertheless exhorted them to flee from it (10:23) and even to pray that their flight should not be too severe (24:20). **Similarly, a prayer requesting to be spared testings may not be incongruous when placed beside exhortations to consider such testings, when they come, as pure joy.**

Carson, D. A. (1984). Matthew. In F. E. Gaebelein (Ed.), *The Expositor's Bible Commentary: Matthew, Mark, Luke* (Vol. 8, p. 173). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House.

“deliver us from evil”

**Evil within
Evil without**

Evil within - The sin nature

Romans 5:12

¹² Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned—

Romans 7:14–23

¹⁴ We know that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin. ¹⁵ I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. ¹⁶ And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷ As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. ¹⁸ I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. ¹⁹ For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.

²¹ So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. ²² For in my inner being I delight in God's law; ²³ but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members.

Romans 8:5–14

⁵ Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. ⁶ The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; ⁷ the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. ⁸ Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God.

⁹ You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. ¹¹ And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.

¹² Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation—but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. ¹³ For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, ¹⁴ because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

Evil without

We live in a fallen world that is temporarily under the enemy's power and influence
... it is a temporary, authority and upon Christ's return and the establishment of HIS KINGDOM on the earth ... satan will be deposed and disposed of

John 14:30–31

³⁰ I will not speak with you much longer, for the prince of this world is coming. He has no hold on me, ³¹ but the world must learn that I love the Father and that I do exactly what my Father has commanded me.

Life in the Spirit affords us the **POWER** for this deliverance

Romans 8 - personal

Ephesians 6:10–18

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this **dark world AND** against the spiritual forces of evil **in the heavenly realms.** ¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.

CLOSE:

Pattern of Prayer as taught by Jesus ...

- Paternity - “our Father”**
- Position - “in heaven”**
- Praise - “hallowed be your name”**
- Priority - “your kingdom come, thy WILL be done ”**
- Petition - “give us this day”**
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