



Sermon on the Mount
Sermon 6
Matthew 6:5-15

Sermon Study Guide
February 16, 2020

Review

Last week in our study of Jesus' "Sermon on the Mount-'ainside", Jesus referred to 3 spiritual practices-giving, prayer and fasting-where we must be intentional about who we want to please. This week we will be looking at the "Lord's Prayer."

Some people, especially the religious leaders, wanted to be seen as "holy," and public prayer was one way to get attention. Jesus saw through their self-righteous acts, however, and taught that the essence of prayer is not public style but private communication with God. There is a place for public prayer, but to pray only where others will notice you indicates that your real audience is not God.

This morning, we will study the Lord's Prayer. Jesus gave it to the disciples as a model for them (and us) to keep in mind as they prayed. Jesus provided a pattern to be imitated as well as duplicated. We should praise God, pray for his work in the world, pray for our daily needs, and pray for help in our daily struggles. Let's examine Jesus' words of encouragement of how to pray.

Read Matthew 6:5-15 Prayer – 'Lord's Prayer'

- When we pray, who is our audience and how does that affect our prayer life?

- How does Jesus describe how we are to pray? List all the ways we are not to pray.
- If God already knows what we are going to pray – why does He want us to pray?
- What three concerns did Jesus pray about first? (vs.5-6)
- Jesus gave a model for praying. In the Lord's prayer, Jesus shows us how to pray to His Father. What warning does Jesus give the disciples and the multitude? (vs.7-8)

- How would you break down the Lord's prayer?
- How does the prayer bring us to a prayer of adoration to God? (vs.9-10)
- Do I spend time welcoming God's influence in my life and in my world? (vs.10)
- Do I have confidence that if I ask for today's needs, God will provide? (vs.11)

- Before asking for my interests – have I asked God for His interests for me and for those around me?
- What does it mean to “forgive our debts, as we forgive our debtors?” (vs.12)
- Can you recall a relationship where you have been hurt or have hurt others and asked for forgiveness?
- In my prayer time, do I allow God to speak to me about the areas of my battles with temptation? Do I express dependence upon God for the ability to resist temptation? (vs.15)

- How can memorizing 1 Corinthians 10:13 help combat temptation and sin?
- What is the relationship between forgiveness and prayer? (vs. 14-15 and 1 John 1:8-9)

The implications:

1. We must forgive others as we are forgiven by God
-it is not an option.
2. Unforgiveness, while ugly, might be the pre-cursor to something worse – how can we hold on to unforgiveness when we have been saved by the death and resurrection of Christ?
3. What do forgiveness and unforgiveness have to do with prayer? Prayer is family affair - we pray in Jesus name to the Father. How can we have a right relationship with the Father, when we don't get along with our siblings.

Forgiveness dictates the quality of fellowship we have with one another. If I am not in fellowship with God, I cannot pray effectively, because prayer is fellowship. Outside of worship, prayer is an easy way to be in relationship with God. Fellowship with others helps me realize my fellowship with God. Forgiveness dictates the level of prayer I can have.

NOTES:

Grow MORE Together Reading Plan

Videos are optional and they are found at:

<https://bibleproject.com/all-videos/read-scripture-new-testament/>

Week 2: Video – Overview of Mathew 1-13

Reading:

- Matthew 7-8 Psalm 84
- Matthew 9-10 Psalm 85
- Matthew 11-12 Psalm 86

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The Year of the Bible

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