

THE MODEL PRAYER - Introduction

Reference: **Matthew 6:5-13**

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This prayer is most often incorrectly called the “Lord’s Prayer.” Instead, the actual “Lord’s Prayer” is a prayer the Lord Jesus prayed Himself as He left the upstairs room where He and His disciples had eaten His last Passover meal, and that prayer is recorded in **John 17:1-26**.

The prayer mentioned here in **Matthew 6:9-13** could be called the “Disciples’ Prayer.” Jesus gave this prayer to His disciples because the disciples had asked Him how to pray (**Luke 11:1**). For the purpose of this series we’re calling this the “Model Prayer” because it serves as a model for us to mimic in our praying.

Please understand that this prayer was not intended to be recited on a consistent basis for two reasons:

- this prayer is recorded twice in the gospels and in each case the _____ is _____
- from **Luke chapter eleven** the disciples said to Jesus, “*teach us to pray*”; but, those men _____ “*teach us a prayer*.”

In **verses nine** through **thirteen** Jesus teaches us how _____ pray; but, before he does that in **verses five** through **eight**, he teaches us how _____ to pray.

Throughout this part of the Sermon on the Mount Jesus exposed the hypocrisy of the then current religious establishment. In **verses 2-4** Jesus exposed hypocritical _____; in **verses 16-18**, Jesus exposed hypocritical _____; and then in **verses 5-8**, Jesus exposed hypocritical _____.

Read **verses five** through **eight**

Before we move onto the main body of the model prayer next time, let me mention three positive reasons we should pray:

One is we are _____ to pray

Reference: **Philippians 4:6**, “*Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.*”

This means not to pray is _____.

Reference: **I Samuel 12:23**, “*Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord in ceasing to pray for you...*”

Two is prayer _____ God

Reference: **John 14:13**, “*and whatever you ask in my name (the name Jesus), that will I do, (and why does God want to do that...) that the Father may be glorified in the Son.*”

Three is prayer results in _____

Reference: **Mark 11:24**, Jesus said, “*Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.*”