

Prayer: Connecting with God
Jesus Gives Us the Model Prayer

Pray then like this:

*“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 also have forgiven our debtors.*

*¹³ And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.*

Matthew 6:9-13 (ESV)

The Lord’s Prayer: A _____ for praying

In prayer, focus on God first vv. 9-10

- **C.A.S.T.**

1 Peter 5:7 *Cast your cares upon him because he cares for you.*

Confession

Adoration

Supplication

Thanksgiving

- **Petition #1:** Pray that God will be _____,
honored and exalted.

- **Petition #2:** Pray for God’s kingdom rule to
_____.

In others: “too _____”

In your-self: “too _____”

In the community: “too _____” (Paul Miller, *A Praying Life*)

Illustration: Team from Haiti

- **Petition #3: Pray that God’s will be done in _____ and on earth.**

MATTHEW 26:39 (NIV84) *Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not at I will, but as you will.”*

The _____ power of self-will

The _____ power of God’s will

1 JOHN 2:17 (NIV84) *The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.*

◇ **Prayer and the renewal of the mind**

ROMANS 12:1-2 (NIV84) *Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. ² Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.*

◇ **God’ will is that we are set apart, avoiding sexual impurity.**

1 THESSALONIANS 4:3-5 (NIV84) *It is God’s will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; ⁴ that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable, ⁵ not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God.*

◇ **God’ will is that we give thanks in every circumstance.**

1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NIV84) *Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.*

◇ **God’ will is that our lives will tell of our faith.**

1 Peter 2:15-16 (NIV84) *For it is God’s will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish men. ¹⁶ Live as free men, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil, live as servants of God.*

See also 1 Peter 3:17 & 4:19

How to Become a Christian

Many people believe they are Christians because they were born in a Christian culture, go to church regularly, try to do their best, or live a good life. However, the Bible teaches that these things cannot make you a Christian. You become a Christian by simply taking these two steps:

- Acknowledge that you (along with all people) have sinned and fallen short of God’s standards. ROMANS 3:23
- Personally believe that Jesus Christ, who was God in human flesh, died for your sins on the cross and rose again. 1 CORINTHIANS 15:3, 4

You may express your belief through prayer, asking Jesus to come into your life, and receiving Him as God’s gift to you.

JOHN 1:12, ROMANS 6:23, REVELATION 3:20

EPHESIANS 2:8, 9 (NIV) *For it is by grace you have been saved through faith...it is the gift of God; not by works, so that no one can boast.*