



THE GOSPEL OF
MATTHEW



How to Pray

Matthew 6:7–15



Matthew 6:7–8

⁷ “And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. ⁸ Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. ⁹ Pray then like this:”



Matthew 6:9–13

- 9 ‘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 6:14–15

¹⁴ “For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, ¹⁵ but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.”



1. Simple faith in our caring Father (6:7–8)

⁷“And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. ⁸Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. ⁹Pray then like this...”



Is God a commodity that we can use him to boost our own status,
or a computer that we can feed words into him mechanically?

— John Stott



1 Kings 18:26–29

²⁶ And they... called upon the name of Baal from morning until noon, saying, “O Baal, answer us!” But there was no voice, and no one answered. And they limped around the altar that they had made... ²⁸ And they cried aloud and cut themselves... ²⁹ And as midday passed, they raved on... but there was no voice. No one answered; no one paid attention.



2. Glad surrender to his perfect will (6:9–10)

⁹ “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.’”



What comes into our minds when we think about God
is the most important thing about us.

— A. W. Tozer



2 Peter 3:13

But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.



Each man simply assumes that what he happens to want more than anything else will bring him happiness.

— Boethius



Colossians 1:9–10

⁹ He made known to us the mystery of his will...
¹⁰ to bring everything together in Christ, both things in heaven and things on earth in him.



3. Daily dependence for our basic needs (6:11–15)

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.’

¹⁴ For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, ¹⁵ but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.”



Look for the bare necessities,
the simple bare necessities.
Forget about your worries and your strife.
I mean the bare necessities—
that's why a bear can rest at ease
with just the bare necessities of life.

— Baloo



Proverbs 30:8–9

- ⁸ Give me neither poverty nor wealth;
feed me with the food I need.
- ⁹ Otherwise, I might have too much
and deny you, saying, “Who is the LORD?”
or I might have nothing and steal,
profaning the name of my God.



Lamentations 3:22–23

- ²² The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases;
his mercies never come to an end;
- ²³ they are new every morning...



Psalm 103:11

As far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.



Forgiveness is as indispensable to the life and health
of the soul as food is for the body.

— John Stott



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