



Key References:

Matthew 6:9–15 (ESV) – 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.

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.

Matthew 7:9–11 (TPT) – “Do you know of any parent who would give his hungry child, who asked for food, a plate of rocks instead? ¹⁰ Or when asked for a piece of fish, what parent would offer his child a snake instead? ¹¹ If you, imperfect as you are, know how to lovingly take care of your children and give them what’s best, how much more ready is your heavenly Father to give wonderful gifts to those who ask him?”

Jeremiah 33:3 (ESV) – Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known.

“Once our eyes have been opened to see the enormity of our offense against God, the injuries which others have done to us appear by comparison extremely trifling. If, on the other hand, we have an exaggerated view of the offenses of others, it proves that we have minimized our own.” – John Stott

2 Chronicles 7:14 (ESV) – if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

Paul started the sermon with a story about his children learning how to swim. They didn’t learn how to swim in a classroom, but in the water. **Why did Paul begin with this and what is the challenge towards us?**

Martin Luther said: *“To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing.”* **Do you feel like you’re in the water or the classroom with the topic of prayer?**

What was Jesus’ attitude towards prayer and how did he model it?

1 – PRAY WITH HUMILITY

Read Matthew 6:5-6. **How did Jesus model this in Matthew 26:39?**

2 – KEEP IT SIMPLE & FOCUSED

Read Matthew 6:7-8. **How do we tend to overcomplicate prayer?**

3 – START WITH HIM & HIS PURPOSES

Read Matthew 6:9-10. **Why does Jesus start his pattern of prayer with these two lines? Jesus doesn’t waste any words here what is the significance of each phrase?**

When we skip this first step what pitfalls do we find ourselves in?

4 – ASK FOR WHAT WE NEED

Read Matthew 6:11. **What’s the difference between asking needs and wants in prayer? Is it wrong to ask for things we want? How does v10 bring balance to what we should ask for?**

Read Matthew 7:7-11. **What testimonies of needs being met do you have?**

5 – REPENT & FORGIVE

Read Matthew 6:12 & 14-15. **Are we walking out a daily repentance and forgiveness before God like Jesus is laying out?**

Read the quote from John Stott. **How does minimising our own sin before God make it harder to forgive others? Why is Jesus so serious about the need to forgive others in v15?**

6 – SEEK GOD’S PROTECTION & GUIDANCE

Read Matthew 6:13. **How have you experience God’s protection and diffusion of temptation when you’ve prayed?**