

## SERMON NOTES - Our Father

These notes are designed to be read along with the associated audio / video message

**Matthew 6:7-15 NKJV — “And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words. “Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him.**

Superstitious repetition is not what God requires in prayer.

God already knows and cares about all our needs. Why then should we pray?

Because interactive prayer builds our relationship with God. He loves it, and He requires it of us.

**“In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven,**

OUR father - community is important in prayer. Mat 18:19 - “where 2 agree concerning anything...”

FATHER was never used in reference to God before this. We have a Father. Rom 8:15 NKJV - "15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."" Prodigal son story refers - Lk 15:11

HALLOWED speaks of Praise, Worship, reverence and awe. Ps 100:4 - “enter His gates with praise”

Gen 18:17 NKJV - "17 And the LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am doing,"

Isa 41:8 NKJV - "8 "But you, Israel, are My servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, The descendants of Abraham My friend."

### **Hallowed be Your name.**

God's NAME describes His character. He calls Himself:

- “I AM” (also “YAHWEH / JEHOVAH”) Exo 3:13-15
- Jehovah-Rophe - Healer - Exd 15:26
- Jehovah-Jireh - Provider - Gen. 22:14
- Jehovah-Nissi - Banner - Exd 17:15
- Jehovah-Sabaoth - Lord of Hosts - 1 Sam 17:45
- Jehovah-Rohi - Shepherd - Psalms 23
- Jehovah-Tsidkenu - Righteousness - Jer 23:6
- Before Abraham was I AM (Jesus) - Jn 8:58
- I am the bread of life (Jesus) - John 6:35
- I am the Door (Jesus) - John 10:9
- I am the Good Shepherd (Jesus) - John 10:11, 14

Pro 18:10 NKJV — "10 The name of the LORD is a strong tower; The righteous run to it and are safe."

### **Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven.**

This was Jesus' message and mission. He preached and demonstrated it, and it is now also our mission and we must pray it and live it.

Mat 4:17 NKJV - "17 From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

What is Heaven like (so we can pray for it on earth)?

Rev 21:3-4 NKJV - "3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. 4 "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be

no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.""

Rev 21:8, 27 NKJV - "8 "But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death." ... 27 But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life."

Rev 22:15 NKJV - "15 But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practises a lie."

Jhn 12:31 NKJV - "31 "Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out."

### **Give us this day our daily bread.**

He cares about every small need and detail in our lives and wants us to pray for it al.

Mat 10:30 NKJV - "30 "But the very hairs of your head are all numbered."

Phl 4:19 NKJV - "19 And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

### **And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors.**

vs 14, 15 - **"For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. "But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.**

Matt 18:21-35 - Parable of unmerciful servant regarding forgiving debts.

### **And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one.**

"Temptation" = "Testing"

Testing can make us purer and stronger, but a better way is for us to receive and obey His word.

Jas 1:3 NKJV - "3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience."

1Pe 1:7 NKJV - "7 that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,"

2Ti 3:16-17 NKJV - "16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

2Ti 3:16-17 NIV - "16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."

He has already delivered us but we still ask:

Col 1:13 NKJV - "13 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,"

1Jo 5:18 NKJV - "18 We know that whoever is born of God does not sin; but he who has been born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him."

1Jo 1:9 NKJV - "9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

### **For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

Reminding us of Eternal things and getting a correct, eternal perspective.

Ecc 3:11 NKJV - "11 He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also He has put eternity in their hearts, except that no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end."

Eph 2:6 NKJV - "6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,"

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## CONCLUSION

Luk 5:16 NKJV - "16 So He Himself often withdrew into the wilderness and prayed."

Mat 14:13 NKJV - "13 When Jesus heard it, He departed from there by boat to a deserted place by Himself. But when the multitudes heard it, they followed Him on foot from the cities."

Mat 17:2 NKJV - "2 and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light."

Let's use this amazing privilege of prayer.

# Small group discussion guidelines

Remember that the aim of the small group is to foster discussion and community, rather than for the leader or one individual to preach to everyone.

**1** - Often an **Icebreaker question** is a great way to start discussion. You could ask a question like:

- What were the highs or lows of your week?
- What is your earliest memory?
- If you had to describe yourself as one animal, what would it be and why?
- What is your favourite type of holiday destination?

**2** - Next, **read the passage**. You can ask various people in the group to help by each reading a portion of the passage.

**3** - These are the **main questions** to ask to understand the passage:

- What is the main message of this talk / passage?  
Allow discussion and even diverging from the main topic if it is helpful.
- What did you find particularly helpful or challenging?
- What did you not fully understand?
- What can we do PRACTICALLY in response to this teaching?

**4** - Close by offering **prayer** for each person.

- Ask, "how can we pray for you / each other now?"
- Ask each person to pray or you, as leader, pray for each person's need

**The blessing** and opportunity in Small Groups is the possibility for...

- Each person to contribute and/or ask questions,
- People to pray for each other and to ask for prayer,
- People to learn to use and grow in their gifts,
- Community, friendship and intimacy in relationships.

God Bless you in this very important ministry.