

A Study of the Book of Matthew: Chapter 6 v. 9-15

- **After explaining the importance of prayer and the way that God intercedes for us, Jesus goes on to explain how we should pray.**
 - It's important to recognize that Jesus isn't telling the people to pray ONLY in this way, but instead to use it as an example. What content/things should we take to God in prayer? _____
 - **“Our Father in Heaven, Hallowed be Your name.” (v. 9)**
 - What is special about the relationship that's portrayed at the beginning of this prayer? _____
 - Just as our relationship with our earthly fathers is meant to be close and intimate, so also is our relationship with God.
 - Why is it important to recognize that God is in Heaven? _____
 - What does it mean for something to be Hallowed? _____
 - Jesus wants us to recognize that we are speaking to God and that his name is to be revered! We aren't just addressing anyone, we are addressing THE creator of the universe and the only God.
 - **“Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” (v. 10)**
 - The first part of this verse is often described as a “parallelism”; both of the initial statements mean the exact same thing.
 - What are we asking of God here when we ask that His kingdom and will are done? _____
 - We are not only asking God that His will be done, but also telling God that WE will submit to his calling and will. Where else do we see this occur?
 - Read Matthew 26:36-43. Jesus asked God to allow any other option to occur if possible, but also submits Himself to God's will above his own wants.
 - **“Give us this day our daily bread.” (v. 11)**
 - What is Jesus referring to by daily bread? _____
 - This request is an allusion to the Israelites receiving manna every day while wandering in the wilderness (Exodus 16).
 - What is interesting about Jesus saying “this day”?
 - Just as the Israelites were to trust God's provision for them each day, we are to trust that God will provide for us EACH day. Every day we should turn to God with our needs, but also be thankful for the things he has already provided for us.

- **“And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.” (v. 12)**
 - Why are we able to confidently ask God to forgive us of our debts?
 - We are given forgiveness by accepting Christ and being baptized for the remission of our sins. (Acts 2:38-39)
 - What must we first do before God is able to forgive us of our debts in this passage? _____
- **“And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.” (v. 13)**
 - Jesus instructs us to ask God to help us stay away from anything that will take us away from Him. Will God always offer us a way to do this?
 - Read 1 Corinthians 10:12-13. God will ALWAYS offer us a way out of our sin and temptation, it is on US to choose to do that.
- **Jesus ends this by making reference back the instructions He gave us when we pray found in verse 12. (v. 14-15)**
 - Jesus takes this opportunity to reinforce an important instruction for Christians; we are to be Forgiving. This is brought up multiple other times in scripture (Colossians 3:13, Ephesians 4:32) and should be a staple part of us.
 - Are there an instances where we aren’t required to forgive people who have wronged us? Read Luke 17:3-4.
 - We are called to offer an opportunity to forgive people who have wronged us, but it is also the responsibility of the people who have wronged us to repent.
 - Just as God is not required to forgive us if we refuse to repent and stay in a life of sin, we are also not required to forgive people if they don’t take action to repent of the wrong they’ve done.
 - However, if a brother/sister wrongs us and repents and we refuse to forgive them, then we are also denied forgiveness from God.