

- Purpose of Prayer: Friendship, Lordship, Sonship (Remember Hebrews 7: Jesus is the one interceding for you—and Revelations 8, Ephesians 6—Prayer changes things—it moves history/warfare).
- Before you pray:
  - You need to want to know God for himself (not for yourself or to be seen, you must have no motive but God—to know him and not control him)
  - Have a relationship with God based on grace not performance, a relationship based on his being your Father
  - Your need to be forgiving—basically you must know that you have been forgiven
- As you pray spend time:
  - Adoring: ponder and place yourself in the greatness of God
  - Accepting: Surrender your will—true prayer is giving up power
  - Asking: For daily needs (one day at a time—trust)
  - Adhering—make me a person without sin, a person who forgives
- Key: To get to know God so much you become new—you become joyful, tough, gracious and trusting—that you enter into the Father's will—Jesus Garden

(Tim Keller)

- Gift
  - frees us from anxiety of the human heart
  - reveals the heart of the living God, God's concerns
    - The hallowing of his name
    - the coming of his kingdom
    - the fulfilling of his good pleasure
    - providing for us so we can live kingdom life
    - canceling debts and reconciling us
    - protecting us from the attacks of Satan
  - dignity of causality—Revelation 6-8 each scene someone prays to someone—prayer moves human history—when we pray we participate in the transformation of the world
  - scope—all of life (physical, relational and spiritual) and all of time (past-forgive/present—needs/future—guide and protect
  - prayer of discipleship enabling maturity as pray—learn God's name, character, who he is and what life in the kingdom about, how to live in the world, learn God will, pleasure and purpose, how he wants us to cooperate with him, to trust him for bread, to take risk, to receive and give forgiveness, mercy and grace, and the nature of evil and spiritual battles
  - verbs—most in the imperative only lead is not it is subjunctive—these are commands not requests—they are thing God does (passive mode)

Darrell W. Johnson

- How's business?
- What is truth—truth—God Fathered the world—it's about Him
- Prayer is meant to change me—not change problem, but change me

- Father—Old Testament—15 times/Gospels—170
  - God exists in and as relationship (Father—in heaven/the Son—who comes to be with us to die for us/the Holy Spirit—the relational God within us)
  - Daniel—your are dearly loved—we can trust God to do what is good/best
  - This is where it all begins—this is the issue of the garden—will God be hallowed—is that the center of my life—to hallow the name of God?
- Name—describes reality—a name stood for the personal and incommunicable character of a person, personality, attributes and reputation—pray back his names
- Make yourself known

- Thy Kingdom Come
  - What power we have—Berlin wall (people in Poland)
  - We are asking for a massive revolution—do we really want it (history has a purpose)
  - Kingdom—is the dynamic reality of God acting as the King—Presence of the Kingdom—the rule of God—may it be known
  - Bring in and live in new world order (Sermon Mount/10 Commandments)
  - The Kingdom is where the King is—so Lord be present in me
  - Father I am yours, I make myself available to you for your purposes. Through me make yourself real in my part of the world—make me your instrument of peace
  - Hear cries of pain that God hears and ask God to overcome the contradictions—ask that we would be distressed over the world as it exists now—be willing to do things as God did—to be for, with, one of—that others might experience God within.
  - We do not understand the complexities of life, or history or what God is doing so pray for his will and ways (do we long for the Father's will or for him to succumb to our will—like Jesus we pray with joyful anticipation—Bible all about God's will—(creative, blessed to bless, freed, Sermon Mount—but the head back on the body).

- Give us Bread—Be our provider
  - Trust God to provide vs. my work
  - Shift of pronoun from your to us but note still plural
  - We are physical creatures—so much in scripture about banquets and eating
  - Praying for immediate needs
  - Lent—call to dependence—what mean to do without and see how God gives—temptation in wilderness to get out in front of God vs. waiting for him to provide

- Westminster Confession
- Question One what mean...
  1. Prayer for physical needs,
  2. everything necessary for functioning in world,
  3. living for kingdom,
  4. resources of the Holy spirit so live in faith hope and love,
  5. for Jesus himself as the bread of life
  6. bread for the coming eschatological day—give us today the bread we will enjoy in your fully realized kingdom the bread of peace, joy and rest
- Question Two what are the implications for how we live
  - Calls us to live live life-style of solidarity—kingdom conscious—keeps us from self-centeredness—give us not me—pray in solidarity with whole family of God
  - Calls us to life-style of radical dependency on the Father—day by day—gathering manna in wilderness
  - Calls us to lifestyle of gratitude

- Cancel all our debts
  - Our forgiving others shows how much we realize we are forgiven—if not forgive others we are not asking God’s forgiveness but to excuse me—extend same mercy and grace to others—vs. justice—because God has taken care of the justice part
  - Cancel debt—wipe slate clean—we owe, unfulfilled obligation or payment due—begin again/afresh
  - Peter’s 7x70 is reference to Genesis 4—reversal of natural human tendency toward resentment and revenge
  - Note 10 Commandments to see how much owe
  - Owe Others: parents, children, strangers, poor, to love as Jesus loved
  - Owe Self: care for body, not abuse God’s temple—take care of mind—live in holiness and vitality
  - Owe to God: Love with all heart and soul, mind and strength



- Rescue us from the evil one
  - Test vs. temptation (test proves character and is the process to improve it—but a temptation is meant to entice a person to bring a person down)
  - Protect us from the enticement into temptation—do not let the test become a temptation—deliver us from the evil one
  - 5 strategies of the evil one
    - Sow seeds of suspicion—response seek First Kingdom of God
    - focus on the negative
    - Make false deductions—raises questions so get us to answer wrong way
    - Force Father's Hand
    - Take matters into own hands

It's not complicated

1. Gift of identity—new identity we are children—of the Father—loved by the Father
2. Gift of access—Father in heaven—on the throne—
3. Gift of revelation—of who Father is what he is like—he has plan—gives bread—cancels debts—liberator--rescues
4. Gift of relief—relief from burden of wondering if what we are praying is right to pray—pray God name hallowed—manifest character to you and the world—that the world is filled with the knowledge of him—ok to come as self
5. Gift of vision—vision of Christian life—pattern for discipleship
  - Name—come to know the character of God
  - Kingdom—come to know how God works and reign in the world and cooperate with him
  - Will—come to know what God desires how he is fulfilling his good pleasure
  - Bread—come to know how he provides, forgives, and rescues from temptation
6. Gift of meaning—our lives are brought in on the mystery of God's way in the world—that The Father chooses to work in the world through the prayers of his children—
7. Gift of boldness---
8. Gift of himself—Jesus is answer to all the petitions