

Sermon Notes

When We Pray, Pray This Way

#1 – “The Father and the Gospel” – Matthew 6:5-9

I. Understanding the nature of genuine prayer.

A. Series test: Matthew 6:5-15

B. Prayer – not mechanical, but thankful.

1. Pharisees – Matthew 23:27

C. The pagan way of prayer.

1. Matthew 6:7

- a. Vain repetition – to speak without thinking.
- b. Mindlessness of the Rosary.
- c. Mindlessness of Evangelical creeds said without heart.
- d. “Pitter Patter”

D. Be different.

1. Matthew 6:8

2. We pray not to I _____ God of our need,
or to M _____ Him to action.

3. Why Pray?

a. Calvin and Luther.

II. How the Christian is to pray.

A. The Lord’s Prayer

1. Joachim Jeremias

2. The intent was not to be R _____
but to follow as a M _____.

3. Calvin first observed a correlation to the Moral Law.

Duty to God

Duty to Man

B. The Address – “Our Father”

1. God revealed as:

Personal Father -- _____

Loving Father -- _____

Powerful Father -- _____

2. The importance of the address.

a. Do not underestimate it.

b. Revolutionary

1. Jeremias

2. Lagmerger

3. The title in the Old Testament

a. Ex. 4:22; Ps 103:13; Isa 64:8; Jer 3:19-20

b. J. I. Packer

4. Note corporate nature of the address.

a. Our Father

b. Belong to the family

1. Jesus and New Testament usage – about forty times.

a. Mt 10:32-33; 11:24-27; 23:9; 24:36; 26:39,42,53;
28:19; Mk 13:32; 14:36; Lk 9:26; 10:22; 22:42;
23:34, 46; Jn 5:17-26; 6:27-46; 10:17-18, 29,37;
14:20-23; 15:23-24.

c. Not a prohibition of the title for personal use.

1. Romans 8:15; Galatians 4:6

C. Family nature for those in Christ.

1. God is creator of all and only Father of some.

2. All men are neighbors – Matt. 5:43, 19:19; 22:39

3. Doctrine of Adoption

a. Genesis 3:15; Ephesians 1:5

4. Jesus’ remarks on brotherhood.

a. Matt. 25:31-40; 12:46-50

III. Point for Reflection

A. We need to take more seriously the intimacy by which we
address God as father.

1. The Gospel is present.