

# When We Pray, Pray This Way

#1: The Father and the Gospel

Matthew 6:5-9

## **Matthew 6:5-15**

“<sup>5</sup> When you pray, you are not to be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners so that they may be seen by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. <sup>6</sup> But you, when you pray, go into your inner room, close your door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you.”

“<sup>7</sup> And when you are praying, do not use meaningless repetition, as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that they will be heard for their many words. <sup>8</sup> Therefore do not be like them; for your Father knows what you need, before you ask Him.

“<sup>9</sup> Pray, then, in this way: ‘Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. <sup>10</sup> Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. <sup>11</sup> Give us this day our daily bread. <sup>12</sup> And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. <sup>13</sup> And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. [For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.]’

“<sup>14</sup> For if you forgive men for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. <sup>15</sup> But if you do not forgive men, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions.”

## **Matthew 23:27**

“<sup>27</sup> Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which on the outside appear beautiful, but inside they are full of dead men’s bones and all uncleanness.”

## **Matthew 6:7**

“<sup>7</sup> And when you are praying, do not use meaningless repetition, as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that they will be heard for their many words.”

## **Matthew 6:8**

“<sup>8</sup> Therefore do not be like them; for your Father knows what you need, before you ask Him.”



**Calvin said:**

“Believers do not pray with the view of informing God about things unknown to Him, or of exciting Him to do His duty, or of urging Him as though He were reluctant. On the contrary, they pray in order that they may arouse themselves to seek Him, that they may exercise their faith in meditating on His promises, that they may relieve themselves from their anxieties by pouring them into His bosom; in a word, that they may declare that from Him alone they hope and expect, both for themselves and for others, all good things.”

**Luther remarked:**

“by our praying ...we are instructing ourselves more than we are Him.”

# Concerning God

## First table of the Law

Your name

Your Kingdom

Your Will



Duty to  
God

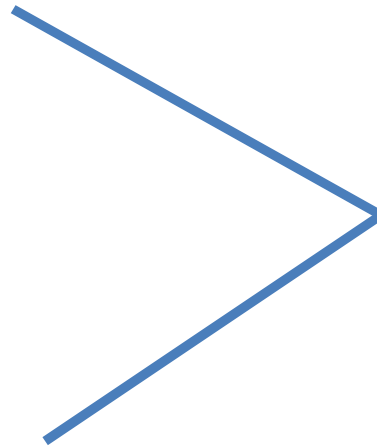
# Concerning Man's Need

## Second table of the Law

Give us

Forgive us

Deliver us



Duty to  
Man

# **Personal Father - Intimacy**

**Loving Father - Shows Concern**

**Powerful Father - Completely Sovereign**

## **Exodus 4:22**

“<sup>22</sup> Then you shall say to Pharaoh, ‘Thus says the LORD, “Israel is My son, My firstborn.”’

## **Psalms 103:13**

“<sup>13</sup> Just as a father has compassion on {his} children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear Him.”

## **Isaiah 64:8**

“<sup>8</sup> But now, O LORD, Thou art our Father, we are the clay, and Thou our potter; and all of us are the work of Thy hand.”



## **Jeremiah 3:19-20**

“<sup>19</sup> Then I said, ‘How I would set you among My sons, and give you a pleasant land, the most beautiful inheritance of the nations!’ And I said, ‘You shall call me, My Father, and not turn away from following me.’ <sup>20</sup> Surely, as a woman treacherously departs from her lover, so you have dealt treacherously with me, O house of Israel,” declares the LORD.”

“If this is not the thought that prompts  
and controls his worship and prayers  
and his whole outlook on life, it  
means that he does not understand  
Christianity very well at all.”

## **Ephesians 1:5**

“<sup>5</sup> He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will.”

## **Matthew 12:46-50**

“<sup>46</sup> While He was still speaking to the crowds, behold, His mother and brothers were standing outside, seeking to speak to Him. <sup>47</sup> Someone said to Him, ‘Behold, Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside seeking to speak to You.’ <sup>48</sup> But Jesus answered the one who was telling Him and said, ‘Who is My mother and who are My brothers?’ <sup>49</sup> And stretching out His hand toward His disciples, He said, ‘Behold My mother and My brothers!’ <sup>50</sup> For whoever does the will of My Father who is in heaven, he is My brother and sister and mother.”

**We need to take more seriously  
the intimacy by which  
we address God as Father.**