

The Lord's Prayer

It is a prayer outline based on the 'Lord's Prayer' or 'Model Prayer' quoted from Matthew 6:9-13 with seven major topics, each representing a basic human need.

1.) The Paternal Need: "Our Father" (v.9).

When you pray, all needs are met by the benevolence (kindness/generosity) of a loving Father. Our first address to God in prayer is Father through Jesus by the power of Holy Spirit. *John 16:23*, "...whatever you ask the Father in My (Jesus) name He will give you." *Matthew 23:9*, "Do not call anyone on earth your father; for One is your Father, He who is in heaven."

2.) God's Presence: "Hallowed be Your name" (v.9).

Enter His presence through praise. *Psalms 100:4*, "Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise; be thankful to Him, and bless His name.", and call Him "Father" because of Christ's atoning blood, *Hebrews 10:19-22*, "...having boldness to enter into the Holy of Holies by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He has consecrated for us through the veil..., let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith..." and *Galatians 4:4-6*, "...And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father."

3.) God's Priorities: "Your Kingdom come" (v. 10).

Declare that His kingdom priorities shall be established in yourself, your loved ones, your church, and your nation. *Romans 14:17*, "for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit." *Matthew 6:33*, "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." As Jesus is a greatest King, so welcome Him as your important King.

4.) God's Provision: "Give us" (v. 11).

Jesus (Jehovah Jireh, the Provider) told us to pray daily, asking Him to supply all our needs. *Philippians 4:19*, "And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Ask God and you will receive from him. You did not receive because you did not ask God. *James 4:2*, "... Yet you do not have because you do not ask." You may say, "God know my need before I ask Him so I don't need to ask and pray." No, it won't work unless you pray and ask Him!

5.) God's Forgiveness: "And forgive us" (v.12).

You need God's forgiveness, and you need to forgive others. Daily set your will to walk in love and forgiveness. *Matthew 6:14-15*, "For if you forgive men their trespasses (sins), your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses (sins), neither will your Father forgive your trespasses (sins)."

6.) Power Over Satan: "And do not lead us . . . deliver us from the evil one" (v.13).

Pray a hedge (an enclosed fence) of protection about yourself and your loved ones. *Job 1:9-10*, "And Satan answered the Lord and said, 'Does Job fear God for nothing? Have You not made a hedge around him, and around his house, and around all that he has on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his livestock have increased in the land.'" and *Psalms 91*. Put on your armour of God, *Ephesians 6:14-18*. *Romans 8:37*, "...we are more than conquerors through Him who loves us."

7.) Divine Partnership: "For Yours is the kingdom" (v. 13).

Praise God for sharing His kingdom, power, and glory with you. God can do on Himself without you but He rather chooses by giving you a great privilege to share with Him in everything. *2 Timothy 4:18*, "And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work and will preserve me to His heavenly kingdom, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen." And *John 17:22*, "And I have given them the glory which You have given Me, that they may be one, even as We are one," and *Luke 10:19*. God is your Divine Partnership as well.

This is the basic and simple example of prayer that teaches you how to pray.

(Written by Paulo Pinto (D), Johannesburg, July 2002)