

THE PRIVILEGE OF Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

One essential ingredient to effective prayer is knowing to Whom we are talking. One of the best ways to know the Lord better is to study His names. The names of God reveal Who He is and what He can do. It is often helpful to call on His name and claim the power of His name in seeking answers to prayer. The names of God cause us to understand that prayer is to be a time of *reverence* based on Whose presence we are in when we pray.

Our study will teach you how to effectively take advantage of the privilege of prayer.

The Framework of Prayer (review):

1. The Right to Pray (v. 9a)
 2. Prayer of Reverence (v. 9b)
 3. Prayer for Christ's Return (v. 10a)
 4. Prayer of Relinquishing (v. 10b)
 5. Prayer's Request (v. 11)
 6. Prayer of Reconciliation (v. 12)
 7. Prayer for Resistance (v. 13a)
 8. The Ruler of Prayer (v. 13b)
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4. Prayer of Relinquishing (10b)

On the heels of praying for God's kingdom to come, Jesus paints two scenes contrasting submission to God's will. The scene first created shows heaven, where His will is accomplished at His request. Isaiah and John saw this firsthand in their visions (Isaiah 6; Revelation) when the creatures of heaven obeyed the voice of God. The second scene Christ presents is on earth, where, since the kingdom is not yet in place, man struggles against God's will. Christ shows us in this segment of His prayer that it is imperative that we, messengers of the coming kingdom, relinquish ourselves to obey the will of God.

- a. What Is the Will of God? (Ephesians 5:17)

In general, God's will is His plan for you to live according to the economy of His Kingdom by faith (Matt. 6:10; Ps. 37:23).

- 1) God's will is _____ (Psalm 32:8).
- 2) God's will is _____ (Isaiah 58:11).
- 3) God's will is _____ (Matthew 4:19; Mark 11:2).
- 4) God's will is _____ (Isaiah 55:8, 9).

b. Can I Know the Will of God?

Many Christians get caught up in thinking that God's will is mysterious and impossible to figure out—this thinking is far from the truth.

- 1) God wants you to be _____ and know His will (Eph. 5:17).
- 2) God reveals His will the following ways:
 - a) The _____ (Psalm 19:7, 8).
 - b) The Holy _____ (John 14:26).
 - c) By knowing the “_____ of Christ” (Phil. 2:5).
 - d) The _____ (Acts 3:19-21; Rom. 10:13-15).
 - e) Other _____ (Prov. 11:14; 12:15).
 - f) _____ (1 Cor. 16:9).

c. Why Do I Struggle Relinquishing Myself to God's Will?

Accomplishing God's will successfully is a lifelong struggle that believers face because of several factors:

- 1) We live in the _____ (Gal. 5:17).
- 2) We are surrounded by _____ (1 Jn. 2:16).
- 3) We wage a _____ warfare requiring faith (2 Cor. 10:3; Eph. 6:12).

d. How Can I Relinquish Myself to Do God's Will?

- 1) Live _____ through Christ (Gal. 2:20).
- 2) Be _____ with the Spirit (Eph. 5:18).
- 3) Respond in obedient _____ (Prov. 3:5, 6).

When we pray for God's will to be done, we acknowledge that our wills must be relinquished to His.

Prayer Journal

Focus this week: Relinquishing Your Will

Date Started: _____

Request: _____

Date Answered: _____

What God did: _____

Date Started: _____

Request: _____

Date Answered: _____

What God did: _____

Date Started: _____

Request: _____

Date Answered: _____

What God did: _____

Date Started: _____

Request: _____

Date Answered: _____

What God did: _____
