

PRAISE—PRIORITIES-- PROVISION--PROBLEMS -- PROTECTION

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

In prayer, we first focus on who God is. Praise!

NIV—Matthew 6:9-13

9“This, then, is how you should pray:
 ‘Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
10 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
11 Give us today our daily bread.
12 And forgive us our debts,
 as we also have forgiven our debtors.
13 And lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from the evil one.

Attitudes of our heart:
 9-- awe and wonder, adoration and worship
 10-- submission
 11-- humility and awareness of our need
 12-- repentance and confession, understanding and forgiveness towards others
 13-- dependence to grow in spiritual maturity and endurance

Day 1: Read Matthew 6:5-8. What is Jesus teaching us about prayer and our hearts' attitudes? What attitudes is He warning us of? What attitudes does He encourage us to have?

Look at the box above. What other attitudes should we have as we pray? Which of these attitudes comes easy for you? Are any of these attitudes a challenge for you?

****Prayer is primarily about the connection we have with God at the heart level.***

Day 2: WHY? **Why** might Jesus have taught us to pray using these words? What is significant about each word?

Our

Father

In heaven

Hallowed be your name

Day 3: Our Father in heaven. How do these Scriptures describe the relationship God wants with us?

Psalm 103:8-14

Romans 8:15-17

How do you know that you are a child of God? What words or phrases in these Scriptures are most meaningful to you regarding your relationship with God?

Why is it important to focus on God as our Father when we pray?

"When I pray I know that God is my Father and that He delights to bless me, and that He is much more ready to give than I am to receive and that He is always concerned about my welfare. I must get rid of this thought that God is standing between me and my desires and that which is best for me. I must see God as my Father who has purchased my ultimate good in Christ, and is waiting to bless me with His own fullness in Christ Jesus." Martyn Lloyd Jones

Day 4: Hallowed be thy name. "Your name be honored as holy." (HCSB) Matt. 6:9

In prayer do we spend time simply honoring God for who he is? As we approach God in prayer, we must strive to have a clear picture of God. If left to ourselves, our minds will tend to create our own version of God. We too easily limit God, or put Him in a box, by deciding what He will or won't do. Do you ever put God in a box? In prayer, do you find yourself thinking that you have to tell God exactly what to do? Why is it so important to start our prayer with a focus on honoring God as holy?

As you come to God in prayer, how do you view God? Spend time in prayer today, simply honoring God by praising Him for all that He is to you. Praise Him for His many names or titles, for His characteristics, and for the ways He has made Himself known to you.

** A person's concept of God determines when, why, how, and what he or she prays.*

Day 5: What does the first line of the Lord's prayer teach us about our relationship with God? (Matt 6:9)

What stood out to you most from this week's study?

Agree or apply? How will you apply this?