

## The Model Prayer

Matthew 6:9-15

- 1) Proper prayer entails praying for God's will and His glory (9-10)
  - a) We honor His paternity (9a)
  - b) We prioritize His will over ours (9b)
  - c) We unite ourselves with His program (10)
- 2) Petitioning God entails presenting our personal needs to Him (11-15)
  - a) We ask for daily provisions (11)
  - b) We ask to be pardoned for sins committed (12)
    - i) Having pardoned others, we boldly ask for pardon (14)
    - ii) Without having forgiven, we needn't ask for forgiveness (15)
  - c) We seek protection from evil (13)
- 3) Conclusions:
  - a) Don't parrot the prayer; use it as a model for prayer
  - b) Hypocrites use prayer to look holy
  - c) Pagans use prayer for babble, not content
  - d) Christians speak personally to God in prayer; they are
    - i) Obsessed with God, His name, His will, His glory
    - ii) Seeking to be changed, not change God
    - iii) Humble and thoughtful in prayer
    - iv) Dependent on God
- 4) Questions for discussion
  - a) What is your view of God as "our Father"?
  - b) Do you feel righteous indignation when God's name is not "hallowed"?
  - c) Is God's kingdom or your kingdom your concern?
  - d) Is God's will or your will your priority?
  - e) Are you concerned for "daily bread" or long-term stability?
  - f) Have you forgiven that one that trespassed against you?
  - g) Are you leaning on God for deliverance from evil or yourself?