



The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:1-13

GATHERING

- **Opening Prayer**
- **Evening Song**

“The Lord's Prayer” [http://www.elyrics.net/read/a/aaron-neville-lyrics/the-lord_s-prayer-lyrics.html]

Our Father Which art in heaven. Hallowed would be thy name
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done. On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day, our daily bread And forgive our debts As we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, And the power, and the glory. Forever and ever. amen.

Hear the Story...

READING

- **Read Text aloud [standing, sitting, walking – but don't go far away]**
- **Re-read silently and consider the questions that follow...**

RESPONDING

- **Is this an admonition against public worship, charity, prayer?**
- **What is Jesus encouraging us to do instead?**
- **What are the elements of “The Lord’s Prayer”?**
- **Do you think God’s Kingdom is possible ‘on earth as it is in heaven’?**
- **What does ‘forgive... as you have been forgiven...’ imply?**

SHARING

- **What is the difference between “debts/debtors” and “trespasses/those who trespass against us”?**
- **How do Protestants conclude this prayer?**

CLOSING

- **Grace/Benediction**

Matthew 6:1-13 [NRSV]

[Jesus said,]

6:1 'Beware of practising your piety before others in order to be seen by them;
for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

2 'So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you,
as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets,
so that they may be praised by others.

Truly I tell you, they have received their reward.

3 But when you give alms, do not let your left hand
know what your right hand is doing,
4 so that your alms may be done in secret;
and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

5 'And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites;
for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners,
so that they may be seen by others.

Truly I tell you, they have received their reward.

6 But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door
and pray to your Father who is in secret;
and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

7 'When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do;
for they think that they will be heard because of their many words.

8 Do not be like them,
for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

9 'Pray then in this way:

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 this day
our daily bread.

12 And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.

13 And do not bring us to the time of trial,
but rescue us from the evil one.