

## **Scripture Reading**

Matthew 6: 9-13

## **Sermon**

The Lord's Prayer: A Disciple's Compass

### **Main Idea:**

The Lord's Prayer is a daily compass, pointing not to a place we are going, but to a person we are becoming.

Imagine starting every day with a compass that points not north, but to Jesus. What difference might that make in your day?

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### 1. His Prayer, Our Compass

The Lord's Prayer is not just words to recite, but a portable and memorable discipleship tool that keeps us on course toward Jesus.

#### **Read**

*[The Lord's Prayer] is the prayer most used and least understood. People think they are asking God for something. They are not — they are offering God something...The Lord's Prayer is not a prayer to God to do something we want done. It is more nearly God's prayer to us, to help Him do what He wants done...The Lord's Prayer is not intercession. It is enlistment. (Frank Laubach) We don't pray the [Lord's] Prayer to solicit God's attention. We pray it to catch our own. (David Timms)*

*The Lord's Prayer represents the deepest commitment of the human life imaginable. (David Timms, "Living the Lord's Prayer," p216)*

#### **Reflect**

- Read *Matthew 6:9-13* slowly, aloud.
- What feels different when you read this prayer versus when you recite it in church?
- What word or phrase catches your attention most today?

#### **Respond**

- [PRAY] "Heavenly Father, help me to understand the Lord's Prayer more deeply than ever before. Teach me to unlock its transformative power, that I might become more like my rabbi, Jesus."

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### 2. The Seven "P"s of Discipleship

Like the Pentateuch shaped Israel's life with God, the Lord's Prayer can shape our life with Jesus by guiding us daily through seven compass-points.

- **PERSPECTIVE** ("Our Father which art in heaven")
- **PRIORITIES** ("Hallowed be thy name")
- **PRACTICE** ("Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.")
- **PURPOSE** ("Give us this day our daily bread.")
- **PEACE** ("And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.")
- **POWER** ("And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:")

- **PERSEVERANCE** (*"For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen."*)

**Read**

- Read the prayer again slowly, considering these seven compass points.

**Reflect**

- Which of the seven "P"s feels most relevant to your life right now?
- Which one is most challenging for you to pray honestly?

**Respond**

- Write down which "P" you sense God calling you to focus on this week.
- [PRAY] "Father, let this prayer shape me and transform my perspective, priorities, practice, sense of purpose, experience of peace, access to Your power and continued perseverance."

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### 3. A Two-Way Invitation

The Lord's Prayer is bi-directional: it is both our invitation to God and God's invitation to us.

- We invite God to reign in our lives.
- God invites us to partner with Him in bringing His kingdom into the world.

This prayer is not just about sending words upward — it's about living them outward.

As we move through the prayer each day, we invite God to reign in and through our lives, shaping our perspective, priorities, practice, sense of purpose, experience of peace, access to His power, continued perseverance.

**Reflect**

- Where do you sense God inviting you to partner with Him today?
- How could this prayer reframe your morning routine — not as asking, but as aligning?

**Respond**

- Pray the Lord's Prayer each morning, this week, pausing after each phrase to consider how it might shape your day.
- [PRAY] "Lord, as I pray this prayer, may Your kingdom come in me — and through me. Enlist me in Your mission today."

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### For the Week Ahead

**Read:**

- Matthew 6:9–13 daily, aloud (KJV, the version we recite at church).

**Reflect:**

- Which word or phrase speaks loudest each day?
- Keep a short journal of your insights.

**Respond:**

- Pray the prayer slowly, phrase by phrase, inviting God to direct your thoughts, words, and actions like a compass.