

## Isaiah 56:7 (NKJV)

<sup>7</sup> Even them I will bring to My holy mountain and make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices Will be accepted on My altar; For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations.”

The key to spiritual breakthrough always has and always will be prayer

To become a genuine House of Prayer it will take all of us living with an attitude and spirit of prayer as a state of mind

## Matthew 6:6 (NKJV)

<sup>6</sup> But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who *is* in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

- Prayer is a place
- A secret place in the Spirit
- Our relationship with God is established there
- Everything we ask from there, according to His will is given to us
- Jesus often went alone to the desert to pray
- You and I can designate a place and dedicate it to prayer

Communication with God is not so much based on what we say, but what we hear from Him

One of the most essential aspects of growing in prayer is cultivating a right view of God

- The word of God tells us the truth about who God is
- He is a tender, loving Father
- Jesus is the Bridegroom King
- We are to delight ourselves in relationship with Him

Our prayer life is transformed when we come to know God as someone we can approach confidently, knowing that He enjoys us and is glad to be in relationship with His people

**John 17:23 (NKJV)**

<sup>23</sup> I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.

**Romans 8:15 (NKJV)**

<sup>15</sup> For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.”

- The truth is Abba-God enjoys us even in our weaknesses
- As sons and daughters, we are able to approach His throne with confidence
- Without shame or hesitation

Our prayer lives will not grow until we come to a place of confidence in God

## Ephesians 5:29–32 (NKJV)

<sup>29</sup> For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord *does* the church. <sup>30</sup> For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. <sup>31</sup> “*For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.*” <sup>32</sup> This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

- Christ loves His bride
- He cherishes and nourishes her
- Before the return of the Lord the church will see herself as the bride crying out for the return of the Bridegroom King
- As sons of God we are positioned to experience God’s throne
- We are heirs to His power
- As the bride of Christ, we are positioned to experience God’s heart
- Jesus’ commitment to His bride is to share His heart, home throne, secrets, and beauty with them

The Lord is raising up a multitude of men and women, singers, preachers, evangelists, writers, intercessors, people in the workplace to proclaim that God delights in His people

## Revelation 22:17 (NKJV)

<sup>17</sup> And the Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let him who hears say, “Come!” And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.

## Three Types of Prayer

### Matthew 6:9–13 (NKJV)

<sup>9</sup> In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. <sup>10</sup> Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as *it is* in heaven. <sup>11</sup> Give us this day our daily bread. <sup>12</sup> And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. <sup>13</sup> And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Here we see the greatest most well-known apostolic prayer of the greatest man of prayer to ever walk the earth

- Again, prayer is not a formula
- However, we see here three types of prayer
- Devotional Prayer – Intercessory Prayer – Personal Petition

Jesus is on the hillside by the Sea of Galilee teaching the multitudes what it looks like to live a Kingdom lifestyle

- His priorities – His heart – His values
- Mike Bickle – “*The Constitution of God’s Kingdom*”
- In essence Jesus is saying to keep these things central in your prayer life
- He gives us six requests
- The first three focus on God’s glory (His name, kingdom, and will)
- The second three focus on our needs (Physical, relational, and spiritual)

## Matthew 6:9 (NKJV)

<sup>9</sup>In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven,  
Hallowed be Your name.

- The Jewish people had no problem seeing God as a transcendent, majestic creator, “*in heaven*”
- But here we see that Jesus is showing them that God is also as their Father

He wanted them to see His affections, tenderness, and personal involvement with His people

- He is both powerful and personal, transcendent, and tender
- We cannot separate these two aspects of God’s nature
- The right view of God is foundational to prayer
- Jesus set the context of intimacy with God within His sovereignty and majesty
- Missing either one of the aspects will warp our view of prayer and we will not relate to Him properly
- We cannot view God only in His heavenly glory and depersonalize Him
- Those who see Him only as a father tend to view God as their “*buddy*”

Jesus also emphasizes that God is not only *my* Father but *our* father

- We are to pray for the whole family of God not just ourselves alone

## Praying for God's Glory – **Matthew 6:9-10**

### *“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name”*

- God name refers to His person, character, and authority
- We respond to Him in the way that He deserves
- The very thought of Him stirs awe and a holy fear
- We are praying for His name to take the highest place in our lives, hearts, and worship
- We are asking God to release His power to cause more people to see the truth about Him
- We also are refusing to take His name in vain, use it in jest, or in expressions of anger
- We also revere God's name by not asking for anything contrary to His name or His will

### *“Your Kingdom Come”*

- The kingdom is the place where God's word is obeyed, His will is done, and His power expressed
- The kingdom is expressed when demons are cast out and the sick are healed – **Matthew 12:28**
- The kingdom is present wherever God's will is expressed, under the authority of Jesus the King

The schoolteacher, the banker, the store clerk, hospital worker or courthouse clerk all express the kingdom in their “sphere” of influence

The Kingdom is already here but not fully here

- It manifests in part in this age
- It will manifest in fullness when Jesus returns to earth

***“Your Will Be Done on Earth as It Is in Heaven”***

- In this prayer we set our hearts to obey God’s will
- Both individually as well as corporately
- Obeying His commands in our personal lives
- Fulfilling His ministry assignments, He gives each of us

Some believers are committed to changing the nations yet fail to walk in purity

- They are more concerned with “growing their ministries” than interacting with Jesus, and obeying Him
- There is no substitute for obeying Him
- Remember those who genuinely love Jesus obey Him  
– **John 14:21–23 (NKJV)**

**Revelation 2:4 (NKJV)**

<sup>4</sup>Nevertheless I have *this* against you, that you have left your first love.

- We must not allow service in the kingdom to take the place of intimacy with the King

## Praying for Personal Needs – **Matthew 6:11-13**

### **Matthew 7:11 (NKJV)**

<sup>11</sup> If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!

- We express our dependence on Him when we ask Him to meet our needs
- He promises to meet our every need – **Philippians 4:19; Matthew 6:26**

### ***“Give Us Our Daily Bread”***

- We do not pray for God to inform God to meet our needs because He knows before we ask – **Matthew 6:7-8**
- We pray to enhance our relationship with Him by connecting and dialoguing with Him
- He already knows our needs, but often withholds some of our provision until we talk to Him in prayer
- He meets our needs partially by giving us the ability and opportunity to make a living
- Yet, He delights in meeting our needs as a loving Father
- Notice Jesus said to ask for “*daily*” bread, not monthly or yearly bread
- He promises to give us bread one day at a time



## ***“And Forgive Us Our Debts, As We Forgive Our Debtors”***

- This fifth petition deals with our relationships with God and people
- The evidence that we have been freely forgiven is that we freely forgive others
- The man who knows he has been freely forgiven is compelled to forgive others
- Yes, we have been freely forgiven, saved, and delivered from hell – **2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Romans 3:21-23**
- Prayer for our debts to be forgiven is about restoring our fellowship with God

### **1 John 1:8–9 (NKJV)**

<sup>8</sup>If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

- We do not lose our standing with God when we stumble and sin
- We cannot earn our forgiveness with God
- Sin defiles our minds, and quenches our hearts, hindering our ability to enjoy the presence of God
- We are asking God to cleanse our hearts from the defiling effects of sin

***“And Lead Us Not into Temptation, But Deliver Us from The Evil One”***

- Jesus is calling us to pray for the Lord’s help to avoid and escape temptations before they even occur
- God never temps anyone with evil – **James 1:13**
- I believe this points to something more intense than the temptations we all face daily

This is praying to be delivered from a “*storm of temptation*” where demonic activity is heightened, our lusts are aroused, and circumstances are optimum for sin

- We all face general temptations in our attitudes, lack of patience, or selfish decisions
- I believe this falls into the category of committing adultery or participating in activities that harm others, or deny Christ

Satan always looks for opportune times to hit us with a storm when we are vulnerable or about to embark on a new assignment or genuinely pursuing God’s will – wanting to destroy our faith

**Luke 22:31–32 (NKJV)**

<sup>31</sup> And the Lord said, “Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift *you* as wheat. <sup>32</sup> But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to *Me*, strengthen your brethren.”

## 2 Corinthians 2:11 (NKJV)

<sup>11</sup> lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices.

- Paul is encouraging us to be alert and aware of the enemy
- David prayed for deliverance from situations even before they occurred – **Psalm 19:12-13**

## 1 Corinthians 10:12–13 (NKJV)

<sup>12</sup> Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.

<sup>13</sup> No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God *is* faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear *it*.

In these days, as the pressure of society increase, and sin becomes more universally accepted, prayer to not be led into temptation and be delivered from evil is all the more significant

## Luke 21:34–36 (NKJV)

<sup>34</sup> “But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. <sup>35</sup> For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth.

<sup>36</sup> Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man.”