

ALONE TIME WITH GOD

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How do you get to know someone?

Why does God want us to spend time with Him?

These instructions are given to us by whom?

This is all about relationship!

The purpose of prayer is intimacy with God.

How do we get to know God?

How much time should be given to our alone time with the Lord?

Is it important to be sincere when you pray?

What does it mean to be sincere?

V. 5 "And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward."

- "when you pray"

V. 6 "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."

- Jesus is telling us how to have private prayer. Where are we to pray?
- What is the key to getting up early to pray?
- "Why tune up the fiddle when the concert is finished?"

V. 7 "And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words."

- What are vain repetitions?
- What is the key to prayer?

V. 8 "Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him."

- If God knows everything, why then should we pray?
- "No relationship is..."
- What is prayer?

V. 9 "In this manner, therefore, pray..." "manner" means 'pray like this, then'."

- Why pray in this manner?

"Our Father"

- The word for 'Father' is 'Abba', meaning 'Papa'.
- What does it mean personally to us, that God is our Father?
- Who can pray to the Father? John 1:12
- How can we be adopted into God's family?

"in heaven"

- Where is the Father whom we pray to?
- Focuses on how far above man God dwells. Psalm 103:19

"Hallowed be Your name."

- Psalm 8:1, *"O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is Your name in all the earth, who have set Your glory above the heavens!"*
- "Let Your name be treated as holy." He is telling us to honor God as Father both in thought and life.
- "May His name be made known and glorified." "The chief end of man's life is to glorify God." "...whom I have created for My glory..." Isaiah 43:7
- Don't move on from this part of the prayer, until the place that God occupies in my life, is acknowledged and settled on. I need to have the right focus.
- Nehemiah 9:5-6

V. 10 "Your kingdom come"

- Pray: "Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power and the glory, the victory and the majesty; for all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and You are exalted as head over all." I Chronicles 29:11
- This is intercessory prayer.
- When we pray for His kingdom to come, we are essentially praying for two things:
 - 1.
 - 2.
- What does it mean to establish God's rule in the hearts of people?

"Your will be done" on earth as it is in heaven.

- We find two kinds of people:
 - 1.
 - 2.

2 Cor. 5:15 – *"and He (Jesus) died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again."*

V. 11 "Give us this day our daily bread."

- "Give us this day...not this month, not this year.
- How often are we to pray this prayer?
- As we pray this section of the prayer, we express ultimate dependence upon God.
- Pray: "I recognize that it all comes from You."
- Personal petitions – 1 Peter 5:7

V. 12 "And forgive us our debts..."

- What is a debt?
- This is a daily prayer where I, on a daily basis, am confessing my sin to God and asking for His forgiveness. I confess it and repent and then I talk it through with Him.

1 John 1:9 – *“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”*

- Why can we have forgiveness of sin?
- What is sin?
- Do we understand the cost of sin?
- Pray: “Lord, if there is sin in my life, please show me.”
- We are already forgiven, but we need cleansing from unrighteousness. We need to confess our sins and ask for forgiveness.

“...as we forgive our debtors.”

- This is to remind me that I must not expect my prayers for forgiveness to be heard, if I pray with malice and spite in my heart toward others.

V. 13 “lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.”

- “As a father pities his children, so the Lord pities those who fear Him. For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust.” Psalm 103: 13-14
- Jesus is teaching us to acknowledge our weakness.
- Jesus prayed for us – “Keep them from the evil one.” John 17:15
- 2 Peter 2:9, “...Then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptation...”
- Each morning as we pray, we need to realize we are heading out to a world that is not under God’s submission.
- We need to talk with the Lord daily about any temptations we face, before the day begins. Ask for His strength before they happen.

“For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.”

- What is being said here at the end of this prayer is, “Lord, it is Your kingdom. It is Your power. It is Your glory. I ask that You would allow me to be a part of it.”