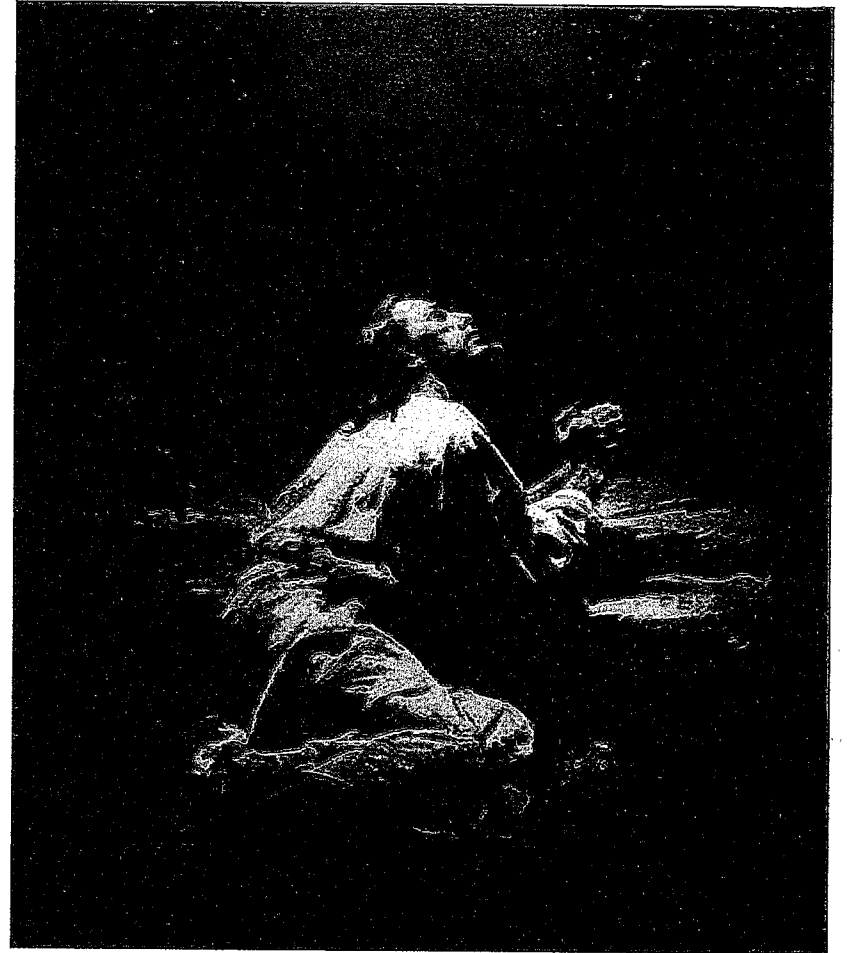


My Prayer List



Jovita Baptist Church
Edgewood, WA



**The Real Lord's
Prayer**

2014

The Lord's Prayer

Most of us have grown up memorizing what we call "The Lord's Prayer." It is recited in thousands of congregations each Sunday the world over. This prayer that we know so well came to us after the disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray. He told them, "When you pray, say:"

"Our Father in heaven,

Hallowed be Your name.

Your kingdom come.

Your will be done

On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us day by day our daily bread.

And forgive us our sins,

For we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us.

And do not lead us into temptation,

But deliver us from the evil one."

Luke 11:2-4

Some manuscripts also include a section that says:

"For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the Glory forever, Amen."

This precious prayer, known and loved all over the world, is not what we should call the "Lord's Prayer." It is more accurately the "Disciple's Prayer." There are a couple of problems we encounter when we identify this as the "Lord's Prayer." First, it is in response to the disciples asking Jesus to teach them how to pray. He clearly told them that they should pray in the way He was describing. Nowhere in the New Testament do we see this prayer repeated by any of the disciples or the early church. They clearly understood that it was a model, not to be a rote prayer from memory, but a template, an example or model for them to follow.

The other problem is that Jesus tells the disciples to pray for forgiveness of sins. Because Jesus never sinned, this is not His prayer. Jesus would never have to pray that His sins be forgiven.

Another issue that presents itself is the fact that Jesus is God. To whom does

God pray? When Jesus brought Lazarus back from the dead, He prayed out loud at the tomb of His friend: "*Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, "Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. And I know that You always hear Me, but because of the people who are standing by I said this, that they may believe that You sent Me."*" John 11:41-42.

Jesus, as God's Son was complete and perfect, the very person and essence of God. As the son of man, He was still constantly in communication with the Father. He prayed often. So often and so passionate was His prayer that His disciples asked Him to teach them to pray. How a disciple prays is different from how Jesus prayed to the Father.

The actual prayer of our Lord is recorded in John 17. It follows after a long passage where Christ is teaching the disciples and getting them ready for the crucifixion and resurrection. The prayer is found between Jesus eating the Passover with the disciples and is immediately followed by the arrest in Gethsemane.

The Real Lord's Prayer: John 17 New King James Version (NKJV)

Jesus Prays for God's Glory

Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, ² as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. ⁴ I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. ⁵ And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.

Jesus Prays for the Disciples

⁶ "I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. ⁷ Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You. ⁸ For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received *them*, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me.

⁹ "I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. ¹⁰ And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them. ¹¹ Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those

whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We *are*.¹² While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.¹³ But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves.¹⁴ I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.¹⁵ I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one.¹⁶ They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.¹⁷ Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.¹⁸ As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.¹⁹ And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth.

Jesus Prays for All Believers

²⁰ "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; ²¹ that they all may be one, as You, Father, *are* in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. ²² And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: ²³ 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.

²⁴ "Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵ O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me. ²⁶ And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare *it*, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them."

This, the actual "Lord's Prayer" was included in the Bible for our edification and growth. We are given an insight into the unique relationship between the Son and the Father. We are also shown the heart of Jesus as He faces His next challenge as the Son of God, dying for the sins of the whole earth.

While this portion of Scripture and our Lord's Prayer deserve much more study and meditation, the question now is; what can we gather from this chapter of God's Word? The following are a few observations to help you, when you examine and consider this wonderful prayer for yourself:

verses 1-5

Jesus raised His eyes to heaven and spoke in an audible clear voice. He was not using a special prayer language or tongue. He was naturally and perceptively talking with the Father. He gives us a clue that the Throne of God is higher, above and unearthly. He connected with the very Throne room of God

in heaven, although He was standing on earth.

He addresses the Father, as He taught the disciples. The one difference is that Jesus here does not address the Father as "Our Father" but Father. It is an intimate and close relationship that only Jesus can truly appreciate as the one Born of God.

Jesus fully understands what is to come, the Glorification of God. He is about to secure eternal salvation for every person on earth who will receive it. He clearly explains what eternal life consists of; knowing the only true God, and Jesus Christ the one whom God sent. Jesus is not just a prophet of God or a good man. In order to have eternal life, a human being must know God by coming through Jesus Christ the advocate and High priest.

Jesus speaks of His work as being accomplished, finished on earth. We don't understand this at all, but we know He was "Crucified before the foundation of the world." I Peter 1:20 Somehow Jesus as the eternal, omnipotent God could say that it was already accomplished even before the events happened in time and space. He remembers His former glory and place in Heaven and longs to return to the Father.

From this section we can extrapolate the following ideas in our own prayer lives:

1. We can speak audibly to God the Father anytime and anyplace.
2. Our prayers are immediately transported into a heavenly place when we pray.
3. We address God as "Our Father."
4. Since God knows the beginning from the end and He is in all points in time and space, we can be confident in our prayers that He knows our need and what we are going to ask even before we pray.

Verses 6-11

Jesus goes on to intercede for His disciples. They were chosen by the Father and given to the Son. They have kept the Word of God and Jesus has revealed the Father to them. Jesus said that the disciples have believed in the Deity of Christ.

Jesus is not interceding for the world, but for the disciples. He is fully aware that He is going home to heaven and the disciples will be left to carry on the work, so He prays for the disciples, He prays especially for unity.

We learn from this passage that:

1. Jesus prays for those who are His- that includes us!
2. Disciples are people who believe and keep the Word of God.
3. Disciples should be unified in their lives together, working as one.

Verses 12-19

Next, Jesus explains that He "kept" the disciples in the Name (authority-power) of God. None of them was lost, spiritually or physically, whether in dangers of drowning, the religious mobs, the Roman army or all of hell's demons. The only one which was lost was the "son of perdition." Judas Iscariot was a traitor and poser from the start. His only job was to betray Jesus, fulfilling the prophecy made hundreds of years before either Judas or Jesus were born.

Jesus is going back to the Father, He has given the world His joy and the Word of God, but now the true disciples are hated and will be persecuted for the Name of Jesus. He does not pray that the disciples will be taken out of the world and removed from their ministry, but that Satan would not harm them. He prays that God would set them apart by the living truth of the Word of God. As the Living Word Himself, Jesus determines to set Himself apart from the world, the flesh and the devil and to intercede for His disciples to also be set apart from those things. Jesus clearly says that God the Father sent Him into the world, and that the disciples are sent by Jesus into the world for their respective tasks.

Here we learn

1. The disciples were safe with Jesus, and He will protect and shield us, pray and intercede for us, that we might not be lost to the evil one.
2. Persecution will happen to the child of God but God will guard His people through the experiences of life and death.
3. Jesus has a ministry for every disciple and every follower of Christ must set himself or herself apart from the world to serve the Living God.

Verses 20-26

Jesus not only prayed for the eleven disciples, but also for you and me. He prays that we might be unified with each other and with God and the result of this will be that the world will see and know, believing in Christ Jesus the Lord. He has given the church His glory and we are deeply loved by God.

Jesus continues to intercede (stand between and advocate for) us. He prays that we might be made perfect in His love and that we will one day be with Him forever. He praises God the Father and reiterates that He has accomplished the work God sent Him to do. Finally He prays that His spirit may dwell in each believer through the love of God Himself, the love that brought Jesus to be the Savior of the World.

In this final passage before His arrest, we can learn:

1. We are deeply loved, individually, by Jesus and God the Father
2. Jesus prays for us that we might have unity and the world would believe through us- His crown and glory!
3. Jesus ever lives to make intercession for us. He is our great High Priest and He prays for us, especially that His spirit may dwell in us in love.

Immediately after Jesus had prayed this prayer publically before the 11, He took them to the Garden of Gethsemane. The place was very familiar to the disciples, Jesus went there often to pray. During the day He would speak to man about God and later, He would get away and talk with God. Jesus power for His earthly ministry came from His abiding and deep connection with the Father. His disciples today would be wise to follow His example.

The Garden of Gethsemane has been preserved for almost two thousand years. It is still a very reverent place in the middle of a busy international city. There are ancient olive trees, many of which are descended from the trees of Jesus time. Between the trees are large boulders and outcroppings of rocks from the hillside. Few places Jesus went are so well preserved; perhaps in the mind of God, He did not want us to make a shrine out of the places our Savior went, worshipping the ground He walked on instead of the deeds, which He did. Worshipping the place instead of His Grace. The Garden of Gethsemane is a little different. And although there is a chapel on the property, part of the Garden is still there and it calls to us today, to remember our Lord's prayer, the importance He placed on prayer, and the High calling we have as His followers, to pray in His name.