



## **Pray Like This “The Lord’s Prayer” Series**

Matthew 6:5-9, p. 811

January 5, 2020

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### **Introduction**

In this passage Jesus introduces his church to the proper postures and practices of prayer.

### **The Text: Matthew 6:5-9a**

- 1) Prayer is not a spiritual display before others for personal gain (v. 5).
  
- 2) Prayer is a personal conversation with our Heavenly Father (v. 6).
  
- 3) Prayer is not based upon the words we use but the relationship we have with God (v. 7).
  
- 4) Prayer is what we need; God is not in need of our prayers (vv. 8-9a).

### **Response**

Our Father, help your children pray as your Son instructed us.

**Small Group Questions**  
**Pray Like This**  
**Matthew 6:5-9, January 5, 2020**

- 1) Starter Question: How familiar are you with the Lord's Prayer?
  
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
  
- 3) V. 5 begins with the phrase, "And when you pray," which assumes prayer is happening. If you are honest, how often or regularly do you pray?
  
- 4) What is a hypocrite, and why is Jesus giving this kind of person as an example regarding prayer (v. 5)?
  
- 5) What does Jesus mean when he says at the end of v. 5 that praying for the sake of others is its own (only) reward (v. 5)?
  
- 6) What is Jesus teaching about the proper motivation of our prayer life in v. 6, and how might it not be speaking against corporate prayer in the life and worship of the church?
  
- 7) What is Jesus concerned with in v. 7, and how might Christians today be guilty of such practices?
  
- 8) How does the awareness that God knows what we need before we ask him (v. 8) help us to pray more properly?
  
- 9) What did you learn about prayer from Jesus' introduction to the Lord's Prayer in these verses?
  
- 10) What thing(s) might you do differently when you pray because of Jesus' teachings in these verses?

**Further study this week:** 1 John 5:14-16 on approaching God in prayer (Mon); Ephesians 6:18 on praying in the Spirit (Tues); James 5:13 on praying when in need (Wed); Mark 11:24 on praying with confidence (Thurs); Matthew 5:44 on praying for your enemies (Fri).