

The Perfect Example - The Lord's Prayer

There was a time when someone asked the question 'What Would Jesus Do?' Jesus' would reply to that question *John 5:19 - 'The Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.'* Jesus, being the perfect Son, taught us the perfect answer of what we, as the Body of Christ, are to do in our daily lives. We are to do all things in the same manner in which Jesus was taught by His Father. In *John 5:30 - 'I can do nothing; As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the Will of the Father who sent Me.'* He also told us in *John 6:33 - 'But seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added to you.'* Verse 34 of John 7 says *'Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.'* So what this says is what we are being told in *Hebrews 11:1 - 'Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.'* *Romans 8:24*, in the second part of the verse says *'hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees?'* Verse 25 says *'But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance.'* For this reason Jesus said to Thomas after His resurrection in *John 20:29 - 'Because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.'* So in God's wisdom He gives us a model prayer for us to pray to Someone we cannot see or touch. If we do this, and know His best will for us will be shown by trusting in Him who we cannot see or touch, how much greater the answer to our prayer, and to reap the benefit of our increased faith.

Jesus, before He ascended into Heaven, said He would send Someone to lead, guide, and comfort us, but the believers had to go to Jerusalem and wait until the Father sent the Holy Spirit. In part, I see this as a completion as to why Jesus gave us the Lord's Prayer. *Romans 8:26* brings it all together as to why Jesus sent the Holy Spirit. The verse states *'Likewise, the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.'*

This leads us back to the Lord's Prayer. *'Our Father who are in Heaven, Hallowed be Your Name.'* Hallowed, or Holy, is God Almighty, the Most High God of all Creation, the Holy One whose Name is above all other names; the One who is the Alpha and the Omega of whom no other is greater than or equal to. He is the God of the impossible; nothing is impossible for Him. We are taught to bring everything to Him in prayer. Is it necessary to ask why?

The next line in the Lord's Prayer is *'Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done on earth as it is in heaven.'* It is not about us and our own little world that we live in, nor is it about what we want done as our own will to be fulfilled. It is all about the furthering of God's Kingdom here on earth and doing His will so we can taste and see how good our God is. When our time comes to be called Home, He can say *'Well done, good and faithful servant.'*

The Lord's Prayer goes on *'Give us this day our daily bread'*. God is our Jehovah Jireh, our Provider. He provides for our every physical need. He sacrificed His only begotten Son who not only took every sin, disease and infirmity, but even conquered death so that we as His children, who believe on His name might have eternal life. As it says in *John 3: 16-17 - '...that whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.'* God not only provides for our earthly needs but is already preparing a heavenly mansion for us to dwell in.

The Lord's Prayer continues with *'Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those that trespass against us.'* This is in place to make it known as we study the Scriptures that if we don't forgive others, God is unable to forgive us. If we do not have love in us, how can we love who we are, and if we have no love for others, how can God be in us? *1 John 4:7-8 - Beloved let us love one another for love is of God*

and everyone that loves is born of God and knows God. He that does not love, does not know God for God is Love.

Next is *'Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one'*. The Word of God in *James 4:7* says *'Submit to God, resist the devil and he will flee from you.'* This advice helps us to understand that the only way to be able to defeat the evil one is to submit to God. If we submit, then we have God's strength to resist the temptations and God will deliver us. Jesus was again our example. As a child, He learned the Scriptures. It states in *Proverbs 22:6* - *'Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it.'* When we have the Scriptures in our hearts we can draw on those Words and use them as weapons. In Matthew it is recorded that Jesus was tempted by Satan. The weapon He used was the Word of God. In *Matthew 4:4* Jesus responded to Satan *'It is written: Man shall not live by bread alone but by every Word that proceeds from the mouth of God'* again in vs. 5: *'It is written: You shall not tempt the Lord your God.'* and again in vs. 10: *'It is written: You shall worship the Lord your God and Him only you shall serve.'* When we know the Word of God we can walk in the confidence that we can speak the perfect responses to the enemy when he tries to take us down.

If we are God's children, we are sons and daughters of a Most High God. Therefore, we are in Christ Jesus-His brothers and sisters. We are and remain in the Family of God because of God's Holy Spirit who, not only lives in us but also goes before us, leads us, guides and comforts us. *John 16:13-15* says *¹³However, when He, the Spirit of Truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. ¹⁴He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you.'* If we who were born into this world of sin, renounce the world, the flesh and the devil, and receive Jesus, we become citizens of God's Kingdom. Jesus said in *John 17:16* - *'They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.'* We are of God for God is in us. Therefore, *'Yours is the Kingdom, and the Power and the Glory forever. Amen'*