



UPSIDE DOWN

HOW TO PRAY SO GOD WILL HEAR

MATTHEW 6:5-13

I. If you want to pray and not offend the Father ...

A. Beware of praying for your own image or self-promotion.

"And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you." vv. 5-6

To avoid the tendency, find a _____ place to seek Him.

B. Beware of counterfeit prayers and meaningless repetition.

"And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him." vv. 7-8

To avoid the tendency, be _____ and focused.

II. If you want to pray a God-honoring prayer ...

A. Pray directly to God and address who He is.

"Pray then like this: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." vv. 9-10

1. Come to Him in adoration and respect, understanding that He is the only _____ God. (v. 9)
2. Pray, desiring that His _____ be done in your life and on all the earth. (v. 10)

B. Pray for your needs, both physical and spiritual.

"Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." vv. 11-13

1. Request provision from God's hand to meet your physical _____, just as you would from your own dad. (v. 11)
2. Confess your sins and ask for strength to model the same _____ spirit in your own life. (v. 12)
3. Ask for supernatural _____ from your own weaknesses and the evil one. (v. 13)

NOW THAT YOU HAVE HIS EAR ... ASK!



UPSIDE DOWN

DEVOTIONAL & HOME GROUP STUDY

1. Can you think of a time in your life when the Lord's Prayer comforted you?

FOR THIS WEEK

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE:

MATTHEW 6:6

"But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you."

JOURNAL:

Matthew 6:5-13

"None of us can comprehend exactly how prayer functions within the infinite mind and plan of God. ... The Bible is unequivocal about God's absolute sovereignty. But it is equally unequivocal in declaring that within His sovereignty God calls on His people to beseech Him in prayer—to implore His help in guidance, provision, protection, mercy, forgiveness and countless other needs. ... It is neither required nor possible to fathom the divine working that makes prayer effective. God simply commands us to obey the principles of prayer that His Word gives."

JOHN MACARTHUR

2. Read Matthew 6:5-13. What insights from this passage or thoughts from the sermon were especially helpful to you?

3. Why are things done in secret so important to God?

4. Reciting and meditating on the Lord's Prayer is wonderful, just as with any part of Scripture. But how is it not so much a prayer in itself as it is a skeleton or guide for our own words of praise, petitions, etc.?

5. True prayer, like true worship, centers on God's glory, not just on our needs. How does focusing on the glory of God change the way we pray? How does it change the way we see our own needs?

JOURNAL Matthew 6:5-13

The Lord Jesus is speaking of a new relationship when He uses the term *Father* for God. How does using this term yourself influence the way you pray? See the verses below for more insight.

Mark 14:36

John 1:12

Romans 8:15

2 Corinthians 6:16-18

Galatians 4:6

Ephesians 1:3

Colossians 1:12

1 Peter 1:17

1 John 3:1

COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you'd like to find out even more, visit www.ccbcfamily.org/events. That's a great spot to see what's coming up!

REMEMBER A LOVED ONE THIS EASTER.

Easter is a time of celebrating the new life we have in Jesus and the hope of resurrection. In light of that, if there's someone you'd like to honor or remember, we have an opportunity for you to purchase an Easter lily in recognition, and their name will be in this year's Easter worship folder. Hurry over to ccbcfamily.org/easter2022—the deadline is April 1.

SEDER CELEBRATION AND DESSERT RECEPTION

Led by David Teitelbaum, D.O., the Seder allows you to experience the traditional Passover ceremony that Jesus Himself would have participated in during His earthly ministry. You'll taste the ceremonial elements, learn the symbolism behind each, and, best of all, discover how it all points to Jesus as Savior and Redeemer. Learn more and register at ccbcfamily.org/easter2022.

MORE THAN JUST A WHALE TALE

Have you ever dived into the book of Jonah and come out with questions? Then you won't want to miss this special one-day seminar with DTS President Dr. Mark Yarbrough on Saturday, April 2 at 8:30 a.m. in the Oak Room as he leads us through the book of Jonah. Go to ccbcfamily.org/events for more info.

FATHER AND SON RETREAT 2022

Our days quickly become full of distractions that take our eyes away from God's mission for our lives. Training our sons requires continually pressing into Jesus and biblical community. Join us on April 30 for a day full of nerf battles, ziplines and more! Spend a day with your son that he will never forget, be encouraged by fellow fathers and maybe even invite another father/son team to come learn about the love of Jesus. Learn more at ccbcfamily.org/events.

ROCK N' ROLL INTO MUSICAMP THIS JULY!

Do you have children who love music and dance? Then mark your calendars for July 11-15! From catchy songs to choreography, your children will have a week full of dancing, singing and discovering the fun of making music that results in an entire musical by the end of the week. From the professional musicians and exceptional volunteers to the children in Grades 1-6, everyone will be tapping their feet to the beat. Learn more by going to ccbcfamily.org/events for info.

REGISTER FOR KIDSCAMP TODAY

Kidscamp is one of our favorite weeks of the year, and we can't wait to share all the fun with you. Children in Grades 1-4 will learn about the gospel with crazy, unforgettable games, rock concert sing-alongs and stories of our strong and good God. You can sign your children up today by visiting ccbcfamily.org/events.



LOOKING FOR THE CONNECT CARD?

Scan the QR code here to fill out a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions and tell you more about Christ Chapel.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE.

The process is quick and easy—text CCBCFW to 833-422-7200 to get started.