

To help us unify together as a church family, we have provided this daily devotional. Each day's devotion is divided into three parts: Receive, where you'll read a brief passage from Scripture; Reflect, where you'll read a short devotional that will help you apply the passage; and Respond, where we'll provide direction on how to pray.

Each day of this first week focuses on a portion of the Lord's prayer, found in Matthew 6 : 9 - 13 (NIV):

***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 debts,
For we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from the evil one.***

It is our hope that you will join us as we seek the Lord this week (and beyond), even as we are apart throughout the week. We invite you to gather with others, if possible, throughout this dedicated time of prayer for our church family. May this be a time of deeper communion with our God and with each other.

Sunday, January 30 - "Our Father in Heaven"

RECEIVE

Our Father in Heaven... Matthew 6: 9

So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when He adopted you as His own children. Now we call Him, "Abba, Father." For His Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children. Romans 8:15-16

REFLECT

You belong to God. Once you were far off, alone, and without a home. But in His great love, He made a way through His Son, Jesus, to make you His own. Your adoption came with a great price, yet to Him, you were worth the cost of His Son's life. God has adopted you into His family and you can now call Him your Father. Everything that is His is now yours because you have been made His son or daughter.

And not only is He our Father, but He is our Father in heaven. He exists outside of the constraints of the world we know, and what is impossible for us is simple and completely feasible for Him. His realm is that of the supernatural. He is not limited by what is seen. This is your Father, and nothing is out of His reach.

The foundation of any sort of honest prayer life is that you are communicating with the One who created you, knows you best, and loves you most. As you pray today, remove all theatrics between you and God. Approach your Father with all the trust and simplicity of a child.

RESPOND

Thank God for His Fatherhood and spend some time acknowledging what that means to you. Then spend a few minutes thinking about the brother/sisterhood we share as believers. Pray about how we as a church can continue to grow in Christ as a family. Pray that God, through His Spirit, would guide us into the path of Holiness as we are called. Pray that we would seek to hear His still, small voice and follow where He leads.. As you pray, find rest that our Father in heaven is worthy and longing for us.

Monday, January 31 – “Hallowed Be Your Name”

RECEIVE

Our Father in Heaven *hallowed be Your name... Matthew 6: 9*

Sing to the Lord, bless His name; tell of His salvation from day to day. Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous works among all the peoples! For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised. Psalm 96:1-4

REFLECT

The name of God is above all other names. If we do not hallow, or treat as holy, the name of God, we miss the opportunity to make God the ultimate concern of our lives. When we hallow His name, we remind ourselves of who He is. His name is uncommon, precious, and far above any earthly name. He is worthy of all praise and honor. His multiple names throughout scripture reveal to us His incredible nature. Jehovah, meaning “I am,” is everything we need. He says to us, “I am your healer, I am your provider, I am your rock, I am the One who sees you, I am your righteousness.”

Scripture commands us to bless His name. According to John Piper, to bless the name of God means “to recognize his great richness, strength, and gracious bounty and to express our gratitude and delight in seeing and experiencing it.” As we take time to think about all that’s wrapped up in His wonderful name, we realize that His name is unlike any other. It is holy, high, and set apart.

RESPOND

Take the opportunity to bless and lift up the name of God. Think of the most pressing issue in your life right now, and then think about that issue in light of the power that’s present in the name of Jesus. Speak His name over the things you’re struggling with and declare His strength and power. Let your prayers to add to the praises being lifted worldwide to the Holiest of names at this very moment. Bless His name!

Tuesday, February 1 – “Your Kingdom Come”

RECEIVE

Our Father in Heaven hallowed be Your name ***Your kingdom come.. Matthew 6: 10***

But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Matthew 6:33 ESV

REFLECT

Thomas Brooks said, "It is sad to think how our heart and time are so taken up with earthly things that we have no leisure to look to Christ and the things that belong to everlasting peace."

The kingdom of God is real. It is vastly different from the systems of this world and yet it's the unseen reality of our lives. It's easy for us to get so distracted by the principles of the visible world around us that we forget our calling to live by higher standards of an invisible kingdom. This is why Jesus urges us to seek first the Kingdom of God. Instead of using all your energy to pursue the empty ambitions of this world, you can focus on building the eternal, unshakable Kingdom of God. In prayer, we distance ourselves from the natural world, our own selfish desires and refocus ourselves on God's Kingdom so that we can advance it every day.

RESPOND

The Kingdom of God is righteousness, peace, and joy. Those virtues drive the heavenly order of things, and your life can reflect that same order. Think on some areas of your life that could use righteousness, peace, and joy. Pray that God's kingdom would invade your life today and that you'd have an increased awareness of it in all you do. Ask for God to give you the wisdom on how to speak, act, and live in a way that builds His Kingdom. Pray that He would reveal the areas in which you are seeking “your will and your kingdom” instead of pursuing His.

Wednesday, February 2 - Your Will Be Done, On Earth as it is in Heaven

RECEIVE

Our Father in Heaven hallowed be Your name Your kingdom come

Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven..." Matthew 6: 10

Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails.

Proverbs 19:21

REFLECT

Is there anything seemingly more valuable in our culture, than our right to an opinion? Everything around us appeals to how we want things, what we think, and what we have to say. Social media has become a platform for every individual to voice his or her views. Stores cater to our sense of choice by offering us dozens of variations of the same product. Everything is customizable and available on rush order so that we can have it just the way we want it, the minute we ask for it.

This way of thinking can even influence the way we think about our lives with God, if we allow it. We cannot clutch onto our way of doing things and also call Jesus our Lord. If Jesus is Lord to us, it means His will is our priority. It means that we want things done His way, not ours. And it means laying down our choices, preferences, and desires in exchange for something better- His. This attitude requires self-sacrifice as we willingly lay down all of who we are and daily seek His will. This is our spiritual act of worship.

RESPOND

Today, take the risk to pray that God's will be done in your life. That means things may not necessarily go the way you want them to go. Quiet your soul before God. Remind yourself that He is wiser than you and knows what is best, and that anything He asks you to surrender now is because He has something ultimately better for you. Surrender yourself to trusting His plan above your own. Ask for God to have His way in your life and truly mean it. Pray for our national leaders , local leaders as well as our church leaders.

Thursday, February 3 - Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread

RECEIVE

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. Matt. 6 : 11***

And it is He who will supply all your needs from his riches in glory because of what Christ Jesus has done for us. Now unto God our Father be glory forever and ever.

Philippians 4:19

REFLECT

God knows exactly what you need and He is able to supply you with exactly what you need. Those two realities have the power to change the way you view life. If you really believed that God could take care of your needs, would there be any reason to worry? Would you deal with fear if you really believed that God was able to provide?

This is the promise of God - that He will supply all your needs according to His riches. As we talked about earlier this week, He is our Father in heaven, so He accesses heaven's limitless storehouses to supply your needs! There's no lack in heaven and no end to the resources that He possesses to meet the needs in your life. When you truly have faith in the God who is able to provide for you, there's no fear that you'll come up empty-handed. You can look at the bleakest of circumstances with a confidence that God will supply.

RESPOND

Think of the specific areas of your life that are distressing to you. Quiet your heart before the Lord, and name each area of distress one by one. As you list them, say out loud after each one, "Lord, I trust you to provide." Ask Him to give you wisdom and discernment to know the difference between a "need" and a "want". Ask Him to reveal to you how He is growing you in the times of waiting and uncertainty. Rest in the trust we have in Him.

Friday, February 4 - Forgive us our Debts as We Also Have Forgiven our Debtors

RECEIVE

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 debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. Matt. 6 : 12

For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins. Matthew 6 : 14 - 15

REFLECT

If you walk with Christ, you are deeply aware of the forgiveness that has been extended to you by Jesus, and your extreme need for it. Forgiveness, and our need for that forgiveness, is at the core of our faith and the beauty of the gospel of Jesus. It is Christ's sacrifice that gives us forgiveness for our sins and allows us to have relationship with God. Recognizing our own wrongdoing and deep need to be forgiven is essential to our own salvation. However, the forgiveness we receive from God is also what demands a response from us. God expects us to show forgiveness to those who have wronged us as we accept His forgiveness for our wrongs. If we're unwilling to forgive others, we're actually rejecting the forgiveness of God because they go hand in hand.

RESPOND

Ask the Lord to show you those who have wronged you and the situations that have caused you to carry unforgiveness. Jot them down on a piece of paper if you need to. Take the time to forgive each one and allow the peace of God to fill your heart. This may mean having some much-needed resolution with those who you have been at odds with. Regardless of how other people treat you, make sure that you do not allow unforgiveness to take root in you. Forgive others today and receive His forgiveness for you.

Saturday, February 5 –Lead Us Not Into Temptation but Deliver Us From the Evil One

RECEIVE

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 debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. ***And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.*** **Matt. 6:13**

No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it. **1 Corin. 10:13**

REFLECT

Temptation is all around us, and has been a part of the human experience since the first man and woman were told they could eat of every tree in the garden except one. We are constantly bombarded with the choice to do things our way or to do them God's way. One of the biggest reasons we give in to temptation is because we feel alone or too weak to resist. However, Scripture teaches us that no temptation is unique to you and no temptation is irresistible. God CAN and WILL give you the strength to resist temptation if you'll ask Him to do so. Remember that temptation isn't always about wanting to do something wrong; oftentimes we're tempted to not do something right, mostly because it's more convenient not to do so. However, we need to ask God to help us to see every temptation as an opportunity to glorify Him rather than a chance to fail Him.

RESPOND

Bring the areas of struggle and temptation in your life before your Father. You don't have to face them alone, and you don't have to allow shame or condemnation to keep you from bringing them to the only One who can help you. Ask God to give you the strength to overcome and ask Him to deliver you. He will show you how to escape temptation's power. Say out loud, "I declare victory in my life over this area of temptation and choose Jesus not my desires to be Lord of my life!"



Prayer



Week



