

The Gospel of Matthew

“Pray Like This...”
The Lord’s Prayer (pt. 2)
Matthew 6:9-15

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Pray, then, in this way:

*Our Father who art in heaven,
 Hallowed be Thy name.
 Thy kingdom come.
 Thy will be done,
 On earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread
 And forgive us our debts, as we also have
 forgiven our debtors.
 And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver
 us from evil.*

“Pray Like This...”

Structure:

- (1) First Three Petitions: God-focused
 - “Your name”, “Your kingdom”, “Your will”
- (2) Final Three Petitions: Our Needs
 - “give us”, “forgive us”, “lead us”

“Pray Like This...”

Proper Petitions to God (con’t.)

- (1) *“Give us this day our daily bread”*
 - a request for God to provide “daily” for our basic physical necessities
 - an expression of dependence on God as the giver of every good thing

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Proper Petitions to God (con’t.)

- (2) *“Forgive us our debts”*
 - an ongoing request for forgiveness as part of our relationship to our Father in heaven
 - a request to be forgiven in the manner that we forgive those who sin against us

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Proper Petitions to God (con’t.)

- (3) *“Lead us/Deliver Us”*
 - a request that God would keep us from and deliver us out of Satan’s temptations
 - an expression of our need for God’s help to keep us from stumbling

“Pray Like This...”

Comment on Forgiveness

1. Why this emphasis?

- it is the one petition that most directly undercuts religious hypocrisy and manifests true kingdom righteousness

“Pray Like This...”

Comment on Forgiveness

2. What does it mean?

- our forgiveness by God is conditioned on our forgiveness of others
- not a meriting of God's forgiveness but the display of one who has experienced God's forgiveness