

## Look to Jesus

The key to happiness is a constant, personal relationship with God. It is enjoying God's presence with us moment by moment, always and forever. Prayer, simple communication with God, is the breath of that relationship.

We look at what Jesus taught about prayer because He embodied that constant, unbroken relationship with God.

Thus it should come as no surprise that Jesus exemplifies the lifestyle taught and formed by the Lord's Prayer. Read one of the Gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John, and this truth will leap out at you.

- Jesus called God "Father." That was His name for God. That was the way He thought of Him and interacted with Him - as His Heavenly Father.
- Jesus was entirely devoted to God's glory, God's rulership, and God's will. "My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me" (John 4:34, NIV). He lived and died in obedience to God and for God's glory alone. Facing His torture and death, Your will be done are the exact words Jesus prayed.
- Jesus modeled complete and constant dependence on His Father. He only said what the Father told Him to say and did what the Father showed Him to do. He was homeless and died with only the clothes on His back. Yet He lived a full life, always sufficient for all life's demands.
- Jesus modeled forgiveness. He forgave even the vilest of sinners during His lifetime and died praying for the forgiveness of those murdering Him.
- Jesus endured the full range of human temptation yet remained perfect and sinless. *We do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are--yet was without sin.* (Hebrews 4:15, NIV)

But the whole truth is more wonderful still. Jesus not only lived out the Lord's Prayer. He lives it out in us, today, every day. Jesus has given us His own Spirit. As we trust Him step by step, He lives within us, filling us with himself, joining His Spirit to our innermost being. Jesus not only helps us to pray as we should. He himself is the answer to each petition of the Lord's Prayer. God's greatest gift to us is not a "something." It is himself!

- The Spirit of Jesus within us gives us that connection with God that enables us to know Him as Father. Read Galatians 4:6.
- The Spirit of Jesus will glorify God through us. As others see our loving deeds and sense the Spirit of Jesus in us, they will be drawn to God and will end up

praising Him (Matthew 5:16).

- Jesus himself brings the kingdom of God into our hearts and lives. He is God's presence, God's rulership, God's sovereign protection.
- The Spirit of Jesus nurtures God's righteousness in our lives and leads us into His perfect will for us.
- Jesus said, *"I am the bread of life. Your forefathers ate the manna in the desert, yet they died . . . I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever"* (John 6:48-49, 51, NIV). Jesus himself, God's presence with us and in us, is God's daily provision for our needs.
- Jesus forgives our sins. By His loving Spirit He also gives us the strength to forgive those who have wronged us.
- As we follow the leading of the Spirit of Jesus, He will draw us away from temptation and deliver us from the evil one.
- Jesus is worthy to receive the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. One day every creature in heaven and earth will sing in one grand unison, *"To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb [Jesus] be praise and honor and glory and power for ever and ever!"* (Revelation 5:13, NIV)

Do you want to understand the Lord's Prayer? Look to the life of Jesus.

Do you want to absorb the spirit of the Lord's Prayer? Look to the life of Jesus.

Do you want to enjoy Jesus' own relationship with God our Father? Pray as He taught us to pray. As you trust Him step by step, day by day, need by need, He will join His Spirit to yours and live His beautiful life in and through you.

Hymn: [Breath of His Love](#)

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