

Resting in God  
“An assurance that He is our God, and we are His greatly loved children”

Study 5

*Matthew 6:9-13 (Amplified Bible)*

*“Pray, therefore, like this: Our Father Who is in heaven, hallowed (kept holy) be Your name.*

*10) Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

*11) Give us this day our daily bread.*

*12) And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven (left, remitted, and let go of the debts, and have given up resentment against) our debtors.*

*13) And lead (bring) us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

You would think that we would place a little importance on the words Jesus spoke in answer to a specific question. You would think that when asked how we should pray, and after we are told how to do so, we would do it. But we don't. Somehow we feel that we have graduated to places above such simple prayers to prayers that better define our need or apply to our personal best. How wrong we are.

The prayer that Jesus gave us is the essence of all of the work of the cross and our position with God because of that work. It is the summation of all that God has done for mankind, and all that Jesus accomplished on the cross. It is a proclamation of honor, belief, submission, praise and direction for our lives to an Almighty Creator God.

As we examine the words that Jesus gave us to pray, we begin to see the marvelous, eternal kind of life that Jesus was showing us each time we proclaim the life He has won for us out loud.

Our Father – Jesus has won for me a family position with Him in His kingdom, and with You, Father God as my Father.

Who is in heaven – Father I fully understand that you are so much higher than all other kingdoms. You live in your sovereign, realm, one that You have created.

Holy is your name – You are the One, Holy God, worthy of all praise, honor and glory. I submit to honoring Your holiness.

Thy Kingdom come - I desire to align myself with your desire to bring Your Kingdom to in this world and to our hearts. Take Your rightful place of power once again.

Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven - I understand that mankind gave away your Lordship on this earth when they rebelled against you. I also understand that you have won total dominance, once again, over this lower kingdom through the life death and resurrection of Jesus. I align my heart with Your heart to reign Supreme on the earth through the life of Christ in Your people in the same way that You reign in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread - You are my only source. I trust you, in the same way that Jesus trusted You for everything I will ever need, now and for all of eternity.

Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors – You are my freedom from sin because of Jesus. I forgive others as I have been forgiven.

And lead us not into temptation – I trust you fully to pave the proper and upright way for my life. I choose your way over any other, for you are my God.

For Yours is the Kingdom, and power and glory forever – There is no one greater than You. I choose to serve no one but You, believing that I am safe in Your arms for all of the endless eternities that I will be with You.

Amen – I willingly agree to all of it, and choose to rest in it.

*Matthew 11:12 (New International Version) From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it.*

We know that nothing can stop the will of God from forcefully advancing throughout the earth, overthrowing any and all strongholds that the lower kingdoms have set up to hinder God's people from becoming His again. Our role in the advancing Kingdom is to submit to the power of the Holy Spirit to

change us as He shows any personal strongholds we have submitted to, or have been blinded by, that stop us from fulfilling His desire that none should perish.

As we submit to the resurrection life of Christ in us, He eliminates a space that was once in a lower Kingdom, and replaces that space with His Kingdom. Once Jesus occupies that space, it is the Lords forever, no longer under the influence of the lower kingdoms.

*Hebrews 4:9-10 (New International Version) There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; 10) for anyone who enters God's rest also rests from his own work, just as God did from his.*

Resting, refreshing, rebuilding and receiving fresh orders between stronghold takeovers in our lives is all part of the role we play in advancing the Kingdom of God with Jesus. On our way to the eternal place of peace we have been promised, our days are used by God to advance His kingdom in us. It is a war of our flesh against everything He is and desires to do in us. Without continual communion on His lap in His presence, we will attempt to fight that war in our own strength. In doing that, we will loose every battle we attempt to participate in.

In our flesh we are no match against even the lowest kingdoms. The wonder and blessing of that thought is that the battle is not ours to fight. We are only to surrender to God through Jesus.

When we rest in God, we receive His, power, His ways, and His battle plans to win those who need Him. Our perfect peace in Christ; a place of complete rest in Father God's commitment to us, allows His perfect power to work through us.

Determine today to find your place of rest in and with Christ. Remember that he bought you with His blood so you could be with him, now and always. You are welcome in the presence of your Father God. Go there often.

For thought or discussion:

How do you define prayer

How does God define prayer

How did Jesus pray or commune with His Father