



## The Gospel According to Luke Wk. 53 “Learning how to Pray” By Pastor Jody May

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### Luke 11:1-4 ESV

**11** Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.” <sup>2</sup> And he said to them, “When you pray, say:

“Father, hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come.

<sup>3</sup> Give us each day our daily bread,

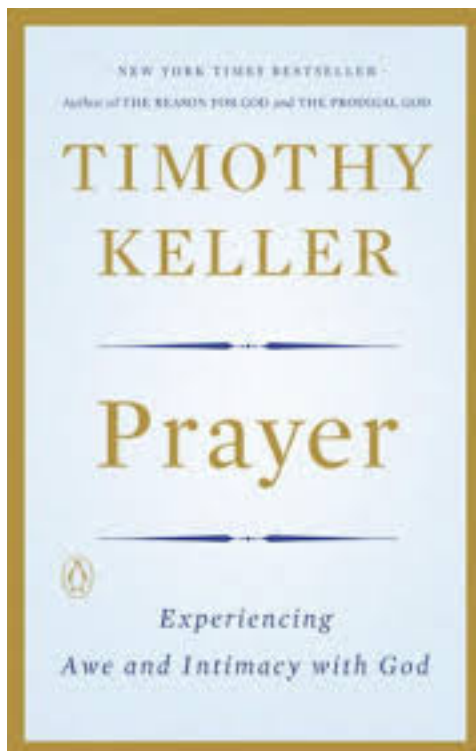
<sup>4</sup> and forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us.

And lead us not into temptation.”

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**Introduction: Why are the disciples asking for this now? Why do we want to know?**



“Not to pray is a sin for not praying is the failure to recognize the Glory of God.”

Prayer is “God’s breath in man returning to his birth.” – George Herbert (1593-1633)

Prayer is a natural human instinct.

Prayer is a nourishing friendship.

Prayer changes those around us.

Prayer is a journey.

Prayer helps us endure.

Prayer means knowing yourself as well as God.

Prayer changes things.

Prayer is a refuge.

Prayer changes us.

Prayer unites us with God Himself.



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Luther’s way to prepare the engine of your heart... (like a cold motor start in the morning)

### 1. Meditate to Elevate.

- **1<sup>st</sup> Instruction - Read or recite God’s Word**
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Thanksgiving - Rejoice in how God has revealed Himself to you.**
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Confession - Reply with praise...**
- **4<sup>th</sup> Prayer - Recite the Lord’s Prayer as a guide for your prayers.**

Then when the heart is ready hit it!

### 2. Employing the Lord’s Prayer

The first three are all about bringing God Glory.

#### Father

“By the great sweetness of this name [Father] he frees us from all distrust” – Calvin.

Starting out in this way is to remind us how we come to him - we come to Him knowing Him, and how do we know Him, **by seeing Jesus** (John 14:9);

And because we have seen the risen Lord by faith here is the truth about the Father.

#### Galatians 4:6 ESV

<sup>6</sup>And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “**Abba! Father!**” <sup>7</sup>So you are **no longer a slave**, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.



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We come to Him with familiarity; not as strangers. There is trust, there is care from Him; remembering what He has done for you. There is no guile, He’s not trying to get something from you. As a matter of fact, you know there is a fullness to the inheritance that is coming, **He always has more to give**, a final eternal blessing that is in store for you, because you are an heir. AND in all of that you still understand you are under His authority.

By getting the relationship FIRST, we are then ready to recognize our Father’s significance.

### Hallowed be your name

Weird statement, if you don’t use the word *Hallowed* in your vernacular anymore. Are we asking Him to make His name Holy, I mean isn’t He already Holy?

Luther believed that we are praying that God keeps us from dishonoring the name by which we are called. What is the value of the name that we might taint it?

### 1 Peter 1:15-16 ESV (taken from Leviticus 20:26)

<sup>15</sup> but as he who called you is **holy**, you also be **holy** in all your **conduct**, <sup>16</sup> since it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.”

### Conduct is what reflects His name...

So, we ask the Lord to Keep His name Holy for we bear it.

We ask him to make His name known, through our lives, so we need His help.

And we respond with gratefulness for the right and privilege to bear it.

Once we get this down, we are ready to ask for the next thing.

### Your kingdom come

Calvin believed that there were 2 ways the Kingdom descended: 1<sup>st</sup> through the Spirit who corrects our desires and 2<sup>nd</sup> through the Word which helps shape our



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thoughts. This is why it is so important to take in God’s Word in your life, without it, your prayer has no power for you know Him not.

Therefore, this is a request to God **to extend His Lordship** over every part of our lives. This statement acknowledges that **you are not the boss**, it makes you stop and listen to what you’re saying, it does for me all the time. Can you say let your will not mine be done? For here is what we acknowledge...

### **Revelation 17:14 ESV**

**<sup>14</sup>They will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful.”**

It also directs our view to the future, yearning for God to make all things right.

### **Revelation 22:17 ESV**

**<sup>17</sup>The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.**

Now when we have recognized His Lordship over us, **we now know who is responsible for our care.**

### **Give us each day our daily bread**

This is a metaphor for necessities instead of luxuries. We come to God now asking with a changed heart, at this point in the prayer, after meditation, after recognizing God for who He is, pleading for the Kingdom to come, our hearts can now ask for things in the right manner.

**Luther believed this is how you connect your prayers to the place in which you live.** Pray for your schools, your community leaders, pray for the prosperity of your land where you live for that is how you get your bread (necessities), your jobs, your food, your salaries, and your future. **Praying for daily bread means you have to care about how things are run**, it does make you a little political, but



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the blessing of the gospel is you now know that all things come from God not man. Keep praying that people come to know why they have what they have, **it is because God’s people are among them**, receiving the blessings of their covenant with their Father.

**And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who indebted to us**  
(Mat. 18:21-24 Parable of the Unforgiving Servant)

At this point in the prayer towards the end we all should be made aware of how we have lived not for God’s glory, how we have sought happiness outside of God’s provision, so now it is time to repent and let the Spirit guide us into confession.

We need to emphasize this point here, Keller put it this way in his book: “If we have not seen our sin and sought radical forgiveness from God, we will be unable to forgive and to seek the good of those who have wronged us. So **unresolved bitterness is a sign that we are not right with God.**” Calvin said if we retain any feelings of resentment and hatred in our hearts then by this prayer, “we entreat God not to forgive us our sins.”

My friends let’s all be reminded that for all Christians Jesus has paid the same price for them as He did for you. **They don’t have to seek your forgiveness before receiving your love but for you to hold anger against them is to believe that you have no need of forgiveness yourself for you wish to be judged by your works.** That will not work for you. When you are ready to move on, and you need to be done with this point before moving on, because the next point relies on if you have truly given over everything in your heart to God.

**And lead us not into temptation** (Mat. 18:7-8 cut it and cast it off)

Many of us at this point are Amen, but the reality is that there are many temptations every day. **Augustine** thought of it like this, “The prayer is not that we should not be tempted, but that we should not be brought [or led] into temptation.” The Bible often speaks of our impurities being burned off the soul, but that means facing the temptations, praying through them, and becoming



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aware of a greater need for the Lord to show in your life, driving those desires away. To be led into temptation is to be left in that moment whereby which one begins to plan on how to fulfill it. Most marriages don't break apart from a one chance meeting, affairs are developed over the scheming of individuals that devise a plan for intimacy outside of God's will. **(what about deliver us from evil?)**

In the course of all this prayer there is one more thing I want to make aware to you.

### **3. Be attentive to the Holy Spirit and let Him preach!**

In this daily journey that we all should be attempting here's what is happening, the meditation to elevation is the prayer of the Psalmist in 119.

#### **Psalms 119:18 ESV**

**<sup>18</sup> Open my eyes, that I may behold  
wondrous things out of your law.**

When the Lord has done this, and He reveals Himself, **here's what happens in that moment.**

#### **Ephesians 1:17-18 ESV**

**<sup>17</sup> that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, <sup>18</sup> having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints,**

This is the wonderous place in prayer where **you stop, and you see what he is doing in your life and the lives around you.** You are made **aware of the Kingdom, it's the Matrix moment,** and when this happens grab onto it, tell God how you are seeing it, praise Him for it, magnify Him in it, cry about it, let your heart sing to Him about it, for you have just been caught up in the **dance of the Trinity. And Luther says when that happens let it go!**



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The equipping of our Lord Jesus through this model of prayer is so that we may be caught up in the Glory of God as He was, so that we may be preserved in our Salvation, by the arresting of our affections, strengthening our faith for our daily needs. Let’s go to Him now affections renewed to pray with I hope enlightened hearts.

### **PRAY**

### **COMMUNION**

### **BENEDICTION**

Go in the name of the Father, in His Hallowed name, and believe He will empower you to bear it well.

Go in the name of the Son that went through temptation, endured it, so that we may now receive strength from Him by prayer.

Go in the name and the power of the HS that opens our eyes to the glory of God creating in us new affections for Him that bursts our hearts if we share it not with the world.