



September 22, 2019

*This, then, is how you
should pray:
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
Matthew 6:9*

I. Personal Example

- A. Jews prayer tradition
 - 1. Three times a day - regular
 - 2. Words recited from the prayer book (Psalms) - recited
 - 3. Symbolic items and events represent spiritual history – symbolic
- B. The disciples saw Jesus' example of a new form of prayer (Luke 11:1)
Proseuchomai = pro (toward/action/close) + euche (vow/desire/submit)
Four fold meaning includes:
 - 1) Draw close to God – face to face encounter
 - 2) A place of self-sacrifice
 - 3) A decision of will
 - 4) Thanksgiving/praise toward God
- D. Jesus explained the concept of prayer to His disciples and to us

II. Public Expression

- A. “Our” is not a personal pronoun but a public one
- B. This is radical because the Jews believed in limited community
- C. Prayer is a universal connection to all believers in Jesus Christ!

III. Parental Experience

- A. The three-fold meaning behind the word “Pater”
 - 1) Originator/founder
 - 2) Head of authority
 - 3) Personal relationship with a HESED God – one who cares for us
- B. The Jews would not bring God this close!
- C. The radical relationship that is expressed through this word
- D. Jesus went even further when he used the term “Abba” (Mark 14:26)

IV. Praise Expected

- A. Worthy of Praise due to his position in heaven
- B. Worthy of Praise because he is Holy (hagiozo)
- C. The paradox of God
- D. His “name”

V. Personal Application

- A. Pray the Lord's prayer daily for the next 30 days
- B. Embrace the paradox of God
- C. Worship first! Then give petitions and intercessions