



TEACH US TO

PRAY



LESSON 1

What Is Prayer?

**Prayer Is
Communication...**

With God

- When we pray, we communicate with a Person in a relational way.

With God

- **Psalm prayers provide a good example of communicating with God.**
 - Desperation (Ps. 35:13; 39:12)
 - Happiness (Ps. 86:4, 5, 10, 12)
 - Sadness (Ps. 80:4)

With God

- **Think About It**
 - As we pray we need to remember that we are communicating with God. What truths about God should we keep in mind so that we can pray personally?

From Our Hearts

- The spiritual part of us—often described as the “heart”—communicates with God, who is a Spirit (John 4:24).

From Our Hearts

- He knows our thoughts and attitudes.

From Our Hearts

- **Think About It**
 - What will we think about if we pray from our hearts?
 - How can we keep our thoughts engaged while praying?

From Our Hearts

- **Think About It**
 - How can we make our language in prayer sound natural and less formal?
 - What about “filler phrases” that we use in our prayers?

For Our Needs

- God promises to give us all good things (Ps. 84:11).
- God promises to provide for us (Matt 6:25–33).

For Our Needs

- **Think About It**
 - What are some spiritual needs we have?
 - How does God provide for those needs?

For His Praise

- **Express thanks to God for His actions and character.**
- **God deserves praise because He is the greatest.**

For His Praise

- **Think About It**
 - Besides prayer, what are other ways we can praise God?
 - How do we get to know what God is like so that we can praise Him?

Through Christ

- We have access to God through Christ's sacrificial death (1 Tim. 2:3–6) and by His intercession for us (1 John 2:1).

Through Christ

- Christ's work gives us confidence when we come to God.

According to God's Will

- God's will is His macro-level, omniscient plan for His glory and our good.
- To pray for God's will to be done requires us to have an attitude of humble submission.

For God's Glory

- To glorify God means to give Him the honor, worship, and praise He deserves.
- When we pray purposefully and humbly, we demonstrate that God is special to us.

How Can I Change?

- **Do I really know what prayer is?**
- **Do I believe that prayer is a vital part of my relationship to God?**
- **What does my prayer life reveal about my relationship with God?**

How Can I Change?

- **What does my prayer life reveal about my knowledge of God?**
- **What distracts me from prayer?**
- **Do I talk naturally to God, or do I use some sort of shallow, formal language?**

How Can I Change?

- **Do I pray for my spiritual needs or do I only inform God of my physical wish list?**
- **Do I include thankfulness in my prayers?**
- **Do I pray purposefully for God's glory or mine?**



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LESSON 2

Why Pray?

To Know God

- Prayer teaches me to know God through His works.
 - The God of the Israelites and of the early church is the same powerful God I know today.

To Know God

- **Prayer teaches me to know God through His wisdom.**
 - Providences are instances in which we see God working for our ultimate good, even if it doesn't seem like it.
- **Prayer teaches me to know God's love.**

To Know God

- **Think About It**
 - How has God worked in answer to your prayer requests?
 - Can you identify providences in your own life?

To Love God

- **The more we know about God and experience His character demonstrated in our lives, the more we will love God (Eph. 3:14-21).**

To Love God

- **We pray not only because we love God, but also to love God more.**

To Love God

- **Paul prayed for the Ephesian believers to grow in their understanding of God's love by being grounded in God's love (Eph. 3: 14–21).**

To Access God's Grace

- **Prayer is a means of grace—the power or help that God gives to us to obey Him, resist sin, and do His will.**
- **Prayer is hard work, and prayer is essential.**

To Grow Spiritually

- **Prayer is a spiritual discipline—a practice to help believers to grow spiritually.**

To Grow Spiritually

- **How does prayer help us grow?**
 - Our dependence on God grows through prayer.
 - Our love for others grows through prayer.
 - Our personal holiness grows through prayer.

To Demonstrate and Strengthen Faith

- **Our beliefs determine our actions.**
- **God grows and strengthens our faith.**

To Obey God's Command

- God wills that believers pray (Rom. 12:12; Eph. 6:18; 1 Thess. 5:17).
- Failing to pray will invite the temptation to sin (Matt. 26:41).

**“Prayer will make a
man cease from sin,
or sin will entice a
man to cease from
prayer.”**

—John Bunyan

To Obey God's Command

- **Think About It**
 - How can prayer be motivated by love and obedience?
 - What does it mean to love God in prayer?

How Can I Change?

- **Evaluate your motives from a biblical perspective. Are your motivations for prayer biblical?**
- **Do they reflect a heart of love? Do they demonstrate knowledge of the character of God?**

How Can I Change?

- **What areas of your thinking need to be changed?**
- **What practical changes do you need to make in order to change your thinking?**

How Can I Change?

- **Read Ephesians 3:14-21 several times.**
 - Rewrite the passage in your own words so that you could pray it for yourself.
 - Spend time praying this prayer for yourself and for those studying the topic of prayer with you.

How Can I Change?

- **Read Ephesians 3:14-21 several times.**
 - At the end of the week, spend some time thinking of the ways God has displayed His love in your life.
 - Write them down so you can remember them and share them with others.

How Can I Change?

- **Read Psalm 5.**
- **Find several characteristics of God for which you can thank Him.**

How Can I Change?

- **Read Psalm 5.**
 - How do those characteristics meet specific needs in your life?
 - Write them down so you can remember what you learned about God.
 - Spend time in prayer thanking God for His character.



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LESSON 3

Your Part in Prayer

Necessary Attitudes for Effective Prayer

Humility

- Humility demonstrates an inner quietness and submission to God.
- Humility recognizes that we have no strength or goodness of our own.

**“Humility is born by
looking at God, and
his holiness, and then
looking at self and
man’s unholiness.”**

—E. M. Bounds

Humility

- The phrase, *poor in spirit* means to humbly acknowledge our great spiritual need, and rely on God to fill it (Matt. 5:3).

Humility

- **Jesus contrasted humility and pride in the story of the Pharisee and the tax collector (Luke 18:9–14).**

Humility

- **Think About It**
 - If Jesus included you in a parable about prayer, what would He have to say about your humility—or lack thereof—as you pray?

Dependence

- When we recognize that we are empty of goodness and strength, and that God is our one, true Source, we won't look elsewhere for fulfillment.

Dependence

- In Hosea 7:14, the people laid around and wailed for food. God doesn't just view this behavior as human weakness—He actually calls it active rebellion against Him.

Devotion

- **Think About It**
 - What is devotion to God?
- **Devotion is a commitment to the relentless pursuit of God.**

Devotion

- **Isaiah 40 explores the motivation behind this kind of devotion.**

Devotion

- **Isaiah relates God's forgiveness to the people (vv. 1–2).**
 - He reminds them of God's glory (vs. 5).
 - As we see God's glory, we become aware of our sinfulness (vs. 5).
 - Instead of despairing, we have confident joy in God's glorious power (vs. 9–31).

Devotion

- Resting in God gives us endurance to obey Him (vs. 31) and pray consistently.

Consistency

- God doesn't dictate a specific time of day that you should pray. We should always be in a heart attitude of prayer (1 Thess. 5:17).
- But it's good to pick a time to devote entirely to distraction-free prayer.

Sincerity

- Sincerity means we will do whatever is necessary to fellowship with God.
- Sincere prayer means earnestly persisting with God.

Sincerity

- **God promises that He will hear us and reveal Himself to us if we pray sincerely (Jer. 29:12–14).**

Conditions for Effective Prayer

“God is limited only from the human side; and that he is always willing to give beyond our asking, if the human conditions he has so plainly laid down in his Word are fulfilled.”

—Rosalind Goforth

Praying in Faith

- **Think About It**
 - What is biblical faith?

Praying in Faith

- Faith is a confident expectation, or belief, in something that we can't see yet.
 - Faith in Christ's sacrifice (Rom. 5:1)
 - Faith in God's character (Heb. 10:21-23)
 - Faith in God's promises (James 1:5-6)

Praying God's Will

- We must make sure our requests align to God's will (1 John 5:14–15).
- We should not base our requests on selfish desires (James 4:3).

Abiding in God

- When we stay close to God, we will start acting like Him.
- Unless we stay connected to God, we will spiritually wither away (John 15:1–11).
- Abiding in God requires obedience to God's commands and doing what pleases Him (1 John 3:22).

“Let us see that we keep God before our eyes; that we walk in His ways and seek to please and glorify Him in everything, great and small. Depend upon it, God's work, done in God's way, will never lack God's supplies.”

—James Hudson Taylor

Confessing Sin

- Sin breaks our fellowship with God (1 John 1:6).

Confessing Sin

- **Think About It**
 - Does God hear and answer the prayers of an unsaved person?
 - Unconfessed sin hinders prayer (Ps. 66:17–19).
 - God promises forgiveness and cleansing (2 Chron. 7:14; James 4:8–10; 1 John 1:9).

How Can I Change?

- **Take time to evaluate your attitude toward prayer.**
 - Are you humble, dependent, devoted and sincere?
 - Review your lesson to remind yourself what those attitudes look like. Ask God to help you identify areas that need to be changed.

How Can I Change?

- **What could be holding you back from communicating genuinely with God?**
 - Do you lack faith? Do you believe that God can do what you think is impossible?
 - Read Isaiah 40:9–31 and remind yourself of God's greatness.

How Can I Change?

- **Do you lack a desire to submit to God's will? Are you OK if God chooses to answer your prayer differently than you expected?**
- **Read Romans 11:33-36 and ask yourself the questions found in verses 34-35.**

How Can I Change?

- **Do you fail to stay connected to God? Do you continually have a close, loving, personal relationship with God?**
- **Read John 15:12-17 and remind yourself about the kind of relationship that Jesus wants to have with you.**

How Can I Change?

- **Do you have unconfessed sin in your life? Do you have some sin that you are holding onto even though you know it's wrong?**
- **Read James 4:8-10 and humbly evaluate your life. Confess any sin so that you can experience the joy of restored fellowship with God.**



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LESSON 4

God's Part in Prayer

The Trinity

God the Father

- Jesus prayed to the Father throughout His ministry (Matt. 6:9; 11:25; 26:39, 42).
- The Father listens to prayer, responds (John 16:23) and provides for our needs (Matt. 7:7–11; Phil. 4:19).

God the Father

- **He shows mercy and grants forgiveness for sin (1 John 1:9).**

God the Son

- **Think About It**
 - Should we address prayers to Christ?
- **Some prayers are addressed to Christ (Acts 7:59; Rev. 22:20).**

Praying in Jesus' Name

- **Think About It**
 - What does it mean to pray in Jesus' name?
- **We pray in Jesus' name to authorize our prayers.**
- **We are under the salvation and leadership of Jesus Christ.**

Praying in Jesus' Name

- Jesus instructs believers to pray in His name (John 16:23; Eph. 5:20).
- Praying in Jesus' name also means that our prayer should be consistent with His character.

“Prayer is to be in accordance with all that the name stands for. It is prayer proceeding from faith in Christ, prayer that gives expression to a unity with all that Christ stands for, prayer which seeks to set forward Christ himself, and the purpose of it all is the glory of God.”

—Leon Morris

Jesus, Our High Priest

- **Christ is referred to as a High Priest and intercessor (1 Tim. 2:5).**

Jesus, Our High Priest

- To mediate means to make an arrangement that brings two opposite parties together.
 - Christ reconciles sinners to the sinless God through His death (Gal. 2:20; Heb. 9:15).
 - Christ continues to mediate for us when we confess our sin to God and request forgiveness (1 John 1:7).

Jesus, Our High Priest

- **Christ prayed for all future believers in John 17—this means you!**

God the Holy Spirit

- **The coming of the Holy Spirit**
 - Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would indwell all believers and live with them forever (John 14:16, 26; 15:26).

God the Holy Spirit

- **The Work of the Holy Spirit**
 - God, the Holy Spirit, assists believers in many ways and does specific things for them, such as the following:

God the Holy Spirit

- Indwells believers (Acts 4:31;
1 Cor. 6:12)
- Opposes the flesh
(Rom. 8:9; Gal. 5:16–17)

God the Holy Spirit

- Is offended at sin
(Isa 63:10; Eph. 4:30)
- Produces fruit in believers
(Gal. 5:22–24)
- Promotes unity among believers
(Eph. 4:3)

God the Holy Spirit

- Teaches, brings to remembrance, and comforts (John 14:26; 1 Cor. 2:13)
- Seals believers (identifies them, gives evidence of their salvation) (Eph. 1:13)
- Channels the love of God into believer's hearts (Rom. 5:5)

God the Holy Spirit

- Strengthens and gives God's power to believers (Eph. 3:14–21)
- Assists believers in prayer (Rom. 8:26–27)
- Gives understanding to believers (1 Cor. 2:10–11)

**“The Holy Spirit is the breath of
the life of God . . . The Spirit’s
breathing, the Son’s
intercession, and the Father’s
will become one in us.”**

—*Andrew Murray*

God the Holy Spirit

- **The work of the Holy Spirit in Romans 8:15–17**
 - The Holy Spirit assures our Father's love (v. 16)
 - He encourages us in suffering (v. 18)
 - He helps us pray God's will (vv. 26–27)

Trinity Prayers

- **Paul invokes the Trinity in his prayer in Ephesians 3.**
 - He petitions God the Father (vs. 14).
 - For the Holy Spirit to strengthen the believers with power (vs. 16).
 - So that Christ would live in their hearts through faith (vs. 17).

Trinity Prayers

- **Peter prays a Trinity prayer in 1 Peter 1.**

How Can I Change?

- **Evaluate your prayers with these questions.**
 - Do you think about God—the Trinity—when you pray?
 - What do you think about God when you pray?
 - What changes can you make to help you think about God when you pray?

How Can I Change?

- **Read through these passages and create a list of attributes of God to encourage and inspire your prayers.**
 - Matthew 7:7-11
 - Philippians 4:19
 - Romans 8:15-27

How Can I Change?

- **Take time to pray these passages back to God, thanking Him for His character and asking Him to help you trust Him.**



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LESSON 5

What Prayer Does

Prayer Changes God's Actions

- **Think About It**
 - If God's will is settled, why do we make requests in prayer? Does that mean we can change God's will?
- **Moses petitioned for the Israelites, and God showed mercy to them (Exo. 32:9–10).**

Prayer Changes God's Actions

- **The Ninevites repented, so God withheld destruction (Jon. 3:10).**
- **God healed King Hezekiah in answer to his prayer (2 Kings 20).**

Prayer Changes God's Actions

- Prayer is one of several ways that God has created to accomplish His will, just as prayer is part of His will.

“[My prayers] have not advised or changed God's mind—that is, His over-all purpose. But that purpose will be realized in different ways according to the actions, including the prayers, of His creatures.”

—C. S. Lewis

Prayer Changes God's Actions

- **God commands us to pray (2 Chron. 7:14; 1 John 1:9), that by faith we meet His conditions.**

God's Answers Are Conditional

- We must ask in faith (Luke 11:9–10; James 4:2).
- We must be persistent (Luke 18:1–7).
 - Paul requested three times for a specific torment to be removed (2 Cor. 12:7–9).
 - Instead of taking away Paul's trial, God gave him the grace to endure it.

Prayer Advances God's Kingdom

- The early church (Acts 1:14; 4:29–31), Paul (Phil. 1:3–11; Eph. 3:14–21), and Christ (Matt. 6:10) all prayed for God's Kingdom to advance.

What God Will Do

- He gives grace (Heb. 4:16).
 - To resist sin
 - To obey Him
- He provides encouragement (Ps. 55:22; Isa. 26:3).

What God Will Do

- He heals (James 4:15).
- He forgives sin (1 John 1:9).
- He sends gospel workers (Matt. 9:36–38).

How Prayer Affects Believers

- **Prayer brings joy.**
- **Prayer provides fellowship with God.**
- **Prayer increases trust.**
- **Prayer realigns our focus.**
- **Prayer glorifies God.**

Praying with Others

- **Prayer at Church**
 - Prayer builds unity among believers, allowing us to share burdens and praise God together.

Praying with Others

- **Prayer with Family**
 - Parents show their dependence on God when they pray for both large and small things.
 - Parents can also ask their kids to pray for them, teaching them to be concerned about the needs of others.

How Can I Change?

- **Do you believe that prayer works? What part of your prayer life demonstrates this belief?**

How Can I Change?

- **What does it look like to ask in faith? Do your requests demonstrate faith?**
 - Read Luke 22:31–34. Who prayed for Peter's faith?
 - What can you learn about Jesus from this account?

How Can I Change?

- **How do you need to rearrange the way you pray so that it feels more like joyful fellowship?**
 - Spend time praying intentionally joyful and relational prayers this week.

How Can I Change?

- **Spend time thinking about the ways that God has answered your prayers.**
 - What character qualities of God do you learn from His answers?
 - How does reviewing these answers to prayer grow your trust?

How Can I Change?

- Spend time thanking God and praising Him for answering your prayers.
- Record God's answers to prayers. How can you do this?



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LESSON 6

Christ's Instructions on Prayer

Wrong Motives in Prayer

- **Impressing Others (Matt. 6:1–4)**
 - The Pharisee and the Tax Collector
(Luke 18:9–14)
- **Pride (Matt. 6:5–6)**
- **Manipulation through ritual
(Matt. 6:7–8)**

Addressing God Our Father (Matt. 6:9)

- God adopted us into His family (Rom. 8:15; Gal. 4:4–5).
 - Think About It
 - What does it mean to be adopted?
- A change of identity

Addressing God Our Father (Matt. 6:9)

- Access to God
- A relationship with God
- Being heirs with Christ
(Rom. 8:12–17)

God as Our Father

- **Think About It**
 - What should a father do for his children?

God as Our Father

- **God cares for us (1 Pet. 5:7).**
- **God loves us (1 John 4:7–8).**
- **God provides for us (Phil. 4:19).**
- **God protects us
(John 10:29; Ps. 91:4).**

God's Fatherhood Gives Us

- **Comfort (John 14:27; 15:26)**
- **Assurance (John 10:29)**
- **Confidence (Heb. 4:16)**

**“God's fatherhood
gives shape, value,
and confidence to
all our praying.”**

—E. M. Bounds

In Heaven (Matt. 6:9)

- **Think About It**
 - Why do you think Jesus included the phrase, “in heaven”?

In Heaven (Matt. 6:9)

- **By frequently using this phrase, Matthew draws attention to God's high status and superiority.**
- **God is the supreme King.**

How Can I Change?

- **Evaluate your heart attitudes in prayer.**
 - When you pray, do you attempt to show others how spiritual you are?
 - Take time to repent if you need to, and remove phrases or words that you use simply to impress others.

How Can I Change?

- **List the ways that God's fatherhood impacts you personally.**
 - Take time to praise Him in prayer for these truths.
 - Write them down in a place where you can review them later.

How Can I Change?

- **Research Scripture stories that emphasize God as the Supreme Ruler over all.**
 - Hint: Look at 1 Samuel 17, or look up the name, “Lord of Hosts,” in the Old Testament.

How Can I Change?

- **What truth do you find about God in these accounts? How should that impact the way you pray?**
- **Share some of your findings with a friend, parent, or spiritual mentor.**
- **Take time to pray and praise God for being our Father in heaven.**



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LESSON 7

Aligning the Heart in Prayer

Hallowing God's Name (Matt. 6:9)

- **Think About It**
 - What does it mean to “hallow” something?

Hallowing God's Name (Matt. 6:9)

- This is a request of worship for God's character.
 - For all people to recognize God's glory and worship Him for it
 - For God to uphold His reputation and to act in accordance to His attributes

God's Holiness

- Holiness describes God's perfection and uprightness—that He is separate from sin.
 - God desires us to be more like Him in holiness (1 Pet. 1:14–16).
 - We become holy by exposing ourselves to Him continually.

God's Holiness

- **God's holiness also describes His distinctiveness.**
 - He is the only one who can answer our prayers.

God's Glory

- **God works to do everything for His own glory and promotes His goodness.**
 - He deserves glory by His nature and by right of ownership.
 - Jesus prayed many times for God to be glorified (John 12:28, 13:32, 17:1).

God's Glory

- **Glory means honor, worship, praise, and recognizing God's greatness.**
 - The way we live should direct people's attention to God, not to us.

“The sooner we learn to forget ourselves so that He may be glorified, the richer our own blessing in prayer will be. No one ever loses anything by sacrificing for the Father.”

—*Andrew Murray*

The Coming of God's Kingdom (Matt. 6:10)

- God's kingdom is generally defined as the universal reign of God.
 - God rules the hearts of believers.
 - God rules over the physical and spiritual realms.

God's Present Kingdom

- We enter it at salvation (Matt. 18:3; Col. 1:3).
- We must have attitudes of repentance, humility, and faith to allow God's rule in our hearts.
- Entering God's kingdom brings blessing (Matt. 6:33).

Present Kingdom Living

- **People must hear the gospel in order to accept salvation and enter God's kingdom (Matt. 24:14, 10:7).**
- **Living in the kingdom requires sacrifice (Luke 18:29).**

God's Future Kingdom

- The present kingdom of God will exist into the future.
- Pictures of the kingdom
 - Plants (Matt. 13:24–30, 13:31)
 - Leaven, or yeast (Matt. 13:33)
 - A traveling nobleman (Luke 19:11–27)

God's Future Kingdom

- **Think About It**
 - What do these pictures have in common?

God's Future Kingdom

- Jesus taught that while the kingdom exists in believers' hearts right now, it will continue to grow until it becomes supreme over all.
- God will also establish a literal kingdom in the future when Christ returns.

Praying for God's Kingdom

- Praying “Your kingdom come” is a prayer for the future, absolute reign of Christ to come quickly.
- It expresses a desire for the time to come when everyone will submit to Christ, and there will be peace and joy (Rom. 14:17).

Praying for God's Kingdom

- We are praying that Christ will reign in our hearts personally.

God's Will (Matt. 6:10)

- **When God's kingdom has come, then His will comes to pass on Earth unhindered, just like it currently does in heaven.**
- **We also pray that God will make us submissive to Him, so He can work in us.**

How Can I Change?

- Review the following Psalms and identify how God's actions are consistent with His name.
 - Ps. 8:9
 - Ps. 25:11
 - Ps. 106:47
 - Ps. 91:14

How Can I Change?

- **Find additional passages that reveal God's character through His actions.**
- **Spend time praying that God would hallow His name in these ways.**

How Can I Change?

- **Praying for God's kingdom leads us to submission to God as King. Spend time praying that you would be submissive to Christ as King and be obedient to His will.**



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LESSON 8

Requests

Requests for Physical Needs

- **God tells us to ask Him for our physical needs.**
- **But such requests shouldn't make up the majority of our prayers.**

Our Daily Bread (Matt. 6:11)

- Asking God for our daily needs—
not just for the “big” things—
demonstrates a dependent
attitude.

Our Daily Bread (Matt. 6:11)

- **God gives good things even to those who reject Him (Matt. 5:45).**
- **God supplies the things we need to live for Him.**

Our Daily Bread (Matt. 6:11)

- **Think About It**
 - Is this true when it seems like God is not providing for our needs? What about persecuted Christians who endure homelessness, pain, and starvation around the world?

Asking for Desires

- **Think About It**
 - Is it wrong to ask God for things you want?
- **Whenever we approach God with a request, we should think about why we want our request to be answered.**

Asking for Desires

- **What's our motive?**
 - Selfishness?
 - Seeking happiness or fulfillment?
 - Trying to make life easier to avoid God's work in my heart?
 - Or do we truly want to glorify God?

Asking for Desires

- **Making requests with wrong motives**
 - James and John desired honor to glorify themselves (Matt. 20:20–28).

Asking for Desires

- The religious leaders asked for a divine sign to prove Jesus' claims about Himself (Matt. 16:1–4), but they refused to believe the evidence they already had.

Requests for Spiritual Needs

**“Praying and sinning will never
live together in the same heart.
Prayer will consume sin, or sin
will choke prayer.”**

—*J.C. Ryle*

Forgive Our Debts (Matt. 6:12)

- **God's forgiveness to us is proportional to our forgiveness of others (Luke 11:2–4).**
- **A Christian cannot grow spiritually if he or she resents someone.**

Forgive Our Debts (Matt. 6:12)

- **We can't have a right relationship with God when there is sin in our hearts.**
- **When we don't forgive others, God does not even want us to worship Him (Matt. 5:23–24).**

**Don't Lead Us into
Temptation, but Deliver
Us from Evil (Matt. 6:13)**

Deliver Us (Matt. 6:13)

- God is holy, and He doesn't tempt us with sin (James 1:13). However, He does test us.
- This phrase means that we're asking God to shepherd us away from those things that will make it easy for us to sin.

Deliver Us (Matt. 6:13)

- God allows us to go through trials in order to test our faith (James 1:2).
- But God promises to give us wisdom to help us (James 1: 5–6).

How Can I Change?

- **Use the following questions to evaluate your motives for prayer requests.**
 - Will my desire bring glory to me, or to God?
 - Am I asking out of selfishness?

How Can I Change?

- Am I expecting this thing to bring me happiness and fulfillment—things that only God can provide?
- Am I just trying to make my life easier, instead of allowing God to use my situation to help me grow spiritually?

How Can I Change?

- **If you discover wrong motives in your heart, spend time confessing those to the Lord.**
- **If you believe you have right motives, spend time praying again that God would grant your requests.**

How Can I Change?

- **Do you pray for spiritual needs as much as physical ones?**
 - List several personal spiritual needs and pray for them.
 - List several spiritual needs for friends, family, or people in your church and pray for them.



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