



Lord, Teach Us to Pray

Teacher's Lesson

» Introduction

- Purpose: To us how to pray
- Structure similar to the
(Exo. 20:1–17)
 - The first part focuses on our relationship to God.
 - The second part focuses on our relationships with others.
- Divisions
 -
 - Petitions concerning
 - » Concerning God's
 - » Concerning God's kingdom
 - » Concerning God's
 - Petitions concerning ourselves
 - » For
 - » For forgiveness
 - » For
 - Doxology

- Lessons

- This prayer is only for
- God places great on prayer
- We need positive on how to pray
- We must guard against when praying
- From beginning to end, prayer focuses on

»Our Father

- What is an invocation?

To invoke means

- “Our Father”—God’s Fatherhood

What this phrase teaches me about God

- » He (Matt. 6:8).
- » He (Exo. 24:12).
- » He (Ps. 103:13).
- » He will never us (Deut. 31:8).
- » He desires (Deut. 12:28; John 15:7–10).

»In Heaven

- God’s and (1 Kings 8:27; Ps. 115:3)
- God is King of all, and His reign lasts forever (Heb. 1:8)

» What Do These Phrases Teach Me About Prayer?

Address God the

- Remember who God is and who you are
- Balance with

Word Power

- » **Adoration**—the act of giving honor and praise to God
- » **Confession**—the act of acknowledging our sin before God
- » **Thanksgiving**—the act of expressing gratitude to God for His blessings and benefits
- » **Supplication**—the act of asking God for specific needs and desires
- » **Invocation**—the act of calling on God in prayer

Student Work

In Lesson 13, we discussed the four major aspects of prayer using the acronym ACTS. Now we'll look at them in greater detail.

» Adoration

Adoration is the act of giving honor and praise to God. It requires attitudes of reverence, worship, and love.

- If adoration is the first part of prayer, what then should we do at the beginning of our prayers?
- Hebrews 13:15 says we should offer what kind of sacrifice continually to God?

Read Mark 10:37, 42–45. The opposite of honoring God is honoring self.

- What did James and John want Jesus to do?

- Why was this a wrong request (vv. 43–45)?

Sometimes we act the same way. Instead of focusing on the greatness of God and praising Him, we only focus on getting what we want.

True prayer focuses on the greatness of God’s attributes—the characteristics of God that describe who He is and what He has done. What attributes of God are evident in the following verses?

- Job 42:1–6—

- Isaiah 6:1–5—

- Daniel 9:3–4—

Imagine you were going to attend a dinner with a powerful world leader. You would carefully select your clothing and get dressed. When meeting diplomats, you’d be careful about your words and behavior.

Shouldn’t we be even more mindful of God’s greatness when we come into His presence? As we prepare to pray, we should take time to meditate on the awe of God’s greatness and majesty.

»Confession

The second step in prayer requires confession of sin. As we see God in all of His greatness, we become aware of our own sinfulness. This attitude causes us to cry out as Job and Isaiah did.

Read Job 42:1–6 and Isaiah 6:1–5. Both Job and Isaiah meditated on the glory and holiness of God. If we grow cold toward God and comfortable toward our sin, it's because we've neglected to remind ourselves of who God is and what He has done for us.

Confession of Sin Honors God

Confessing our sin honors God in the following ways:

- It honors His omniscience because we admit that we cannot hide anything from God's knowledge.
- It honors His justice because we recognize that God, in His holiness, must judge sin.
- It honors His holiness because we realize that God hates sin.
- It honors His mercy because we believe that God will forgive sin.

Unconfessed Sin Separates Us from God

- According to Isaiah 59:1–2, why did Isaiah say that the Israelites' prayers were not being answered?

Confession of Sin Brings Answer to Prayer

In the following verses, who received an immediate answer to prayer after confessing sin?

- Daniel 9:20–23—

- Luke 15:18–20—

» Thanksgiving

In Philippians 4:6, Paul commands us to give thanks as we pray.

- For what did David offer praise to God in 1 Chronicles 16:23–24?

- In Ezra 3:11, what about God did the people praise?

- For what did Jesus thank the Father in John 11:41?

Complete the following lessons about thanksgiving based on the verses given.

- Thanksgiving is one of the reasons God **s** us (2 Cor. 4:15).
- Thanksgiving is part of **w** (Neh. 12:46).
- Thanksgiving is part of God's **w** for our lives (1 Thess. 5:18).
- If we are filled with the **H** **s** , we will give thanks (Eph. 5:18–20).
- We will eternally give thanks in **h** (Rev. 7:9–12).

» Supplication

Supplication is asking God for specific needs and desires.

God Commands Us to Ask

As we've already noted, it's wrong for us to pray just so we can ask God to grant our selfish desires. But that doesn't mean it's wrong to ask for things when we pray. Our prayers should begin with adoration, confession, and thanksgiving, but they should also include supplication.

Which verses in the following chapters contain a command for us to ask God for things in prayer?

- Matthew 7:
- Luke 11:

Which verses in the following chapters contain promises that encourage us to ask God for things in prayer?

- John 15:
- John 16: -

Our Requests Should Be Specific

Who prayed in the following passages, and what specific requests did they make?

- Numbers 12:10–13—
- Judges 16:27–30—
- 1 Samuel 1:9–11—
- 1 Kings 3:6–9—
- James 5:17–18—

God Delights in Answering Our Prayers

- According to John 16:26–27, why did Jesus encourage His disciples to pray to the Father?

- How are these verses an encouragement for you to pray and make requests of your Father?

