

## Be Hallowed Father 2018-06-24

### Matt 6:7-9

*"And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words.*

*Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him. Pray then like this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name."*

Jesus Christ modeled that the key to relationship with the Father (who is spirit) is prayer. John 4:24

- He gave us a pattern/structure....not specific prayer to be repeated.
  - Begins with incredible result of Gospel. Matthew 6:9a, John 1:12-13, Ephesians 1:5-6

Our Father: foundation of prayer is based on sonship not friendship.

- Father is title of intimate relationship.
  - No Old Testament saint addressed God as Father
  - New Testament (least 275x) Christians instructed to address God as Father based on our adoption because of blood of Jesus Christ.
- By God's grace, through faith, we are justified, adopted and blessed because of Christ's righteousness, not our own. *Gospel*

Sonship is prayer's foundation and God Himself who sovereignly reigns in heaven is power behind our prayer. Matthew 6:9b, Psalm 135:6, 102:19, 1 Timothy 6:15b-16

*"Prayer is to impress you with God, much more than it is to impress God with you or your needs." John MacArthur*

- God always was and will remain absolutely independent and self-sufficient.
  - Eternal Creator who transcends all spatial/geographical limitations rules from highest place (heaven) yet is wholly present everywhere.
    - Above, around and within us is the Omnipotent One!
- He alone is almighty and can't be tricked, thwarted, or defeated.
  - Has power do whatever He decides to do, all His unchanging holy will.
- Christian approach throne confidently because of relationship with God but also respectfully with awe because of who He is. Hebrews 4:16, Romans 8:15-16
  - Not "Hey Buddy" but not in fear either.
    - Look for assurance of salvation in prayer not from others!

"Hallowed be Thy name" desired outcome of all prayer. Matthew 6:9c, Revelation 5:12,

- Not declaration but request (1<sup>st</sup>) omnipotent Father would sovereignly act in ways that glorify Himself. Romans 1:5, 3 John 7

A name in antiquity stood for a person's whole character.

- Various names of God in Scripture are descriptions of His character.
  - All of who God is manifest in person and work of Jesus Christ and find their expression in Gospel. Hebrews 1:3, Colossians 1:15a

"hallow" means sanctify...same Greek word is used for both English words.

- Sanctify can mean *make* holy or *treat* as holy.
  - When God sanctifies us, it means that He makes us holy.
  - But when we sanctify God, it means that we treat Him as holy.

- Jesus is saying ask Father to change us so we “Hallow” Him (treat Him as holy) in/thru our lives 24/7. 1 Corinthians 10:31, Matthew 5:16, Philippians 1:9-11
- Hallow name of Jesus Christ when you trust, obey and glorify Him in/thru our lives.

Foundation of prayer is sonship, power behind prayer is the eternal, sovereign Lord.

- So begin prayer with gratefulness and awe of your salvation, be overwhelmed by the greatness of our Lord as you worship Him.
- Pray with heart’s desire that above all else God would sovereignly act in ways that will glorify Himself.
- 1<sup>st</sup> request in your prayer should be that the Father would sanctify you by making you more like Christ so His great name will be hallowed.