

OUR FATHER • LUKE 11:1-13

Read Luke 11:1-4

1. Matthew 6:5-15 also records this model prayer. What additional lessons does Jesus teach in the section in Matthew?
2. How should these additional lessons effect the way we apply Jesus' teaching on prayer?
3. Because of Jesus' warning about vain repetition, many people feel that Jesus was giving us a model for how to pray, not the exact words. Below are listed some of the components of Jesus prayer. Fill in the verse or phrase next to the principle.
God's Person (who He is):
God's Purposes (aligning ourselves to His will):
God's Provisions (for specific needs that you have):
God's Pardon (forgiveness for specific sins):
God's Protection (in areas of weakness and temptation):
4. What does it mean to sincerely pray for God's kingdom to be manifested?
5. Read Matthew 20:29-34. A good way to consider what provisions you might need is to picture this scene. Suppose Jesus were to approach you and ask, "What would you like Me to do for you?" What would you say?
6. Try writing out a personal prayer that addresses these five issues.

7. Read 11:5-10. What is the major lesson Jesus wants us to learn about prayer?

8. The difference between simply hitting a door and knocking, is the sheer repetition. How is this different from the vain repetition mentioned in Matthew 6:5-15?

9. Why do you think that God wants us to persevere in praying? Why doesn't He always answer immediately?

10. What prayer or request have you simply stopped praying, because it hasn't been answered?

11. Read 11:9-13. Jesus is using the Jewish teaching form in which one makes his/her case by arguing "from lesser to the greater." Where else do you see this approach?

12. Jesus seems to know that we tend to doubt God's favorable disposition toward us. Why do you think we doubt this, and how have you seen this doubt effect your own prayers?

13. Read John 14:12-14. If we do not see God give us what we have asked for, why might this be? How have you seen the things you ask for in prayer change since becoming a Christian?

14. How often do you think you should pray? For how long?

Memorize

The following pattern will give you a helpful way to structure your prayer times:

God's Person, Purpose, Provision, Pardon, and Protection