

Recognizing God's holiness points out our lack of holiness. By recognizing God's holiness, we admit that we are not holy. In fact, we are unholy and unrighteous—we are sinners. How can we as sinners ascribe holiness to the name of God? It is not possible outside of God Himself purifying our lips and hearts, so that we can say, "Hallowed be Your name."

2. Prayer to God recognizes His holiness.


"Hallowed be Your name"

Jesus provided a manner or pattern for prayer. He was God became flesh, and He taught His disciples how to pray. Consider that the first phrase of this prayer provides a Godward focus. Our prayers rise above ourselves and this earth. We entreat God in heaven.

1. Prayer to God follows the pattern of Jesus.

"Our Father in heaven"

"In this manner, therefore, pray:"



How to PRAY?

9 LESSONS FROM THE Lord's Prayer

Not only are we instructed to request forgiveness after we sin, but Christ urges us to petition God to escape from temptation before it comes. God forgives us because of the death of Jesus for our sin-debt. God also promises to provide us a way to escape from sin before we ever succumb to it!

7. Prayer to God acknowledges our dependence upon God's spiritual protection.

"And do not lead us into temptation"

We now engage God in our real spiritual need. We acknowledge that we have sinned against God's holy and righteous laws, and that we therefore owe Him a sin-debt. The overwhelming thing is—because of the death of Jesus Christ for our sins—God stands ready to forgive! He leads us to ask Him for forgiveness. "Please forgive me, Lord!"

6. Prayer to God admits our debt of sin.

"And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors"

"In this manner, therefore, pray:

**'Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be Your name.
Your kingdom come.
Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And do not lead us into temptation,
But deliver us from the evil one.
For Yours is the kingdom and the power
and the glory forever.
Amen.'"**

Matthew 6:9-13 (NKJV)

Confess God's sovereign control of the world. Acknowledge His supreme power. Ask Him to help you submit to His power and authority. Ask Him to help you live only and always for His glory!

9. Prayer to God confesses God's total power and control.

"For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever;"

In the final petition of the Lord's prayer, we cry out for deliverance from the works of Satan. The enemy of our souls wants to steal, kill, and destroy us. God desires that we ask Him for His help, that we may be delivered from the attacks of our arch-enemy. "Please protect me, Lord!"

8. Prayer to God requests deliverance from the evil one.

"But deliver us from the evil one"

"Your kingdom come"

3. Prayer to God acknowledges His right to rule over us.

Your kingdom come means "Your rule come." It is an acknowledgment that His rule has not yet come—and that indeed it *needs* to come. This rule of God begins with His rule over our own hearts. "Lord, may You rule in my heart today."

"Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven"

4. Prayer to God submits our will to God's will.

There is a place where God's perfect will is being done. But it is not on earth. It is in heaven. We therefore ask God to recreate us as new creatures desiring to do His will. "Lord, please help me do Your will!"

"Give us this day our daily bread"

5. Prayer to God requests daily sustenance.

Life at its most basic need is sustained by food. God asks us to request bread—not only bread for our stomachs, which He graciously provides—but more importantly, bread for our souls. There is daily bread that God wants to provide us through His Word, the Bible. "Lord, help me live by this bread also!"