

True Righteousness

11. Prayer 101: The Lord's prayer (Matthew 6v5-15)

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Introduction

- *Martin Luther, "A Simple Way to Pray"*

Context

- The Lord's Prayer is at the *center of the center of the center* of the Sermon on the Mount

The Wrong Way to Pray (6:5-8)

- Praying with wrong motives
- Praying mindlessly

The Right Way to Pray (6:9-15)

1. Praying to Our Father (6:9)
2. Praying for God's Priorities (6:9-10)

Application

3. Praying for Our Needs (6:11-15)
 - Physical (6:11)
 - Spiritual (6:12-15)

Conclusion

Matthew 6v5-15 (NIV)

⁵ "And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. ⁶ But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. ⁷ And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. ⁸ Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

⁹ "This, then, is how you should pray:

"Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,

¹⁰ your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

¹¹ Give us today our daily bread.

¹² And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.

¹³ And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.'

¹⁴ For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵ But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

Ambassador Church Promises

As Christians, we believe that we were dead in our sins and deserving of God's wrath; but because of his great love and mercy God has given us new life in Christ. In Christ we are forgiven, accepted, and adopted by God. All this is through God's incomparable grace and is only received by faith. In view of God's mercy to us we make these promises in dependence on God and the work of his Spirit in us.

We promise to grow in the knowledge of God:

- We will give thanks and praise God for his goodness to us
- We will seek to repent of our sin and rejoice in our forgiveness
- We will celebrate our new life in Christ and walk humbly with God
- We will seek the guidance and leading of the Spirit of God in everything we do
- We will live a life that honours God in obedience to his Word
- We will express our dependence on God in prayer
- We will give God glory for all his work in us and in the world

We promise to grow together as a community of God's people:

- We will endeavour to meet together regularly
- We will make every effort to keep the unity of the church as those whom Christ has reconciled
- We will forgive each other as Christ forgave us
- We will embrace our responsibility to love, care, and pray for each other as God's family
- We will use our gifts to encourage and build each other up
- We will contribute to the church's financial support
- We will respect and honour the leadership of the church

We promise to go into the world with the good news about Jesus:

- We will bear witness to the good news of the gospel through our words and actions
- We will welcome new people into the life of the church
- We will seek to do good to all people to show the love of God
- We will accept suffering for the sake of the gospel
- We will pray for the spread of the gospel throughout Hong Kong and across the world
- We will, if we move from this place, as soon as possible unite with some other church where we can carry out the spirit of these promises and the principles of God's Word