

## **THE MODEL PRAYER: PRAYER BEGINS AND ENDS WITH WORSHIP THE DISCIPLES' PRAYER SERIES**

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**TEXT: Matthew 6:9 “Pray, then, in this way: ‘Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. 10 Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. 11 Give us this day our daily bread. 12 And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. 13 And do not lead us into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.’”**

**INTRO:** Today I want to begin a new series called The Disciples’ Prayer. This is known traditionally as the Lord’s Prayer. I don’t have a problem if you continue to call it the Lord’s Prayer, and sometimes I call it the Lord’s Prayer because this is what it has been called for the past 2,000 years. But in this prayer, the disciples came up to Jesus and asked Him to teach them how they should pray (Luke 11:1), not to tell them how He prays. Technically, the Lord’s Prayer would be the prayer that Jesus prayed in John 17.

In this “Disciples’ Prayer,” Jesus has a section where sin is confessed and repented of. Jesus never sinned. He never repented, so technically it is not His prayer, but He is teaching His disciples how they should pray.

Coinciding with the start of this series, today we are beginning 40 days of what is being called a **Global Jesus Fast**. This was initiated by my good friend Lou Engle. Throughout church history, when God is about to move in revival, we see how the Father begins to mobilize His people in prayer and fasting. The most noticeable passage would be Joel 2:12-28.

There is something in His Kingdom, where God honors those who are so hungry for Him and His presence that they are willing to sacrifice food or the things that they want because they want more of God.

I feel that things are going well at Harvest Rock Church, and I am grateful, but there is a side of me that will always be dissatisfied until we see historic revival.

In this season, we are going to focus on The Disciples’ Prayer as a model prayer. It is divided into five major sections:

### **1. WORSHIP PRAYER- MATTHEW 6:9 “OUR FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN, HOLY IS YOUR NAME”**



2. **DECREE PRAYER- MATTHEW 6:10 “YOUR KINGDOM COME. YOUR WILL BE DONE, ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN”**
3. **PETITION PRAYER- MATTHEW 6:11 “GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD”**
4. **REPENTANCE PRAYER- MATTHEW 6:12 “FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS AS WE FORGIVE OUR DEBTORS”**
5. **DELIVERANCE PRAYER- MATTHEW 6:13 “LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION BUT DELIVER US FROM ALL EVIL”**

Today we are going to look at Worship Prayer. The first thing I am going to encourage you to do, when you pray, is to begin with worship.

## **I. BEGIN PRAYER WITH WORSHIP AND THANKSGIVING**

**A. Matthew 6:9 “Pray, then, in this way: ‘Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.’”**

**1. Psalm 100:4 Enter His gates with thanksgiving And His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him, bless His name.**

### **B. THE FATHER WANTS AN INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU**

**1. *Why pray? One of the major objectives of prayer is that God wants an intimate relationship with you.***

**2. Why does God want us to address Him as Father? The title of *Father* was used six times in the Old Testament but not in the context of prayer.**

**3. Jesus addresses God as *Father* 150 times in the Gospels.**

**4. He created you to be loved by Him and to love Him. It is all about love.**

**5. As I was meditating and studying that God wants us to be called Father, I found myself not addressing God as Father as much as I was addressing Him as Lord. Now that is true, He is our Lord, but Jesus said something that was radical: Call God “Abba Father.” “Daddy.”**

**6. Just like a father of a two-year-old wants to love and be loved by his child. He will come to him and hug him and kiss him/her.**

**7. He is not demanding worship. He is not saying, “Worship me or else!” Once you have a revelation of who He is, you will be drawn to worship Him.**

**8. THE FATHER WANTS TO BE CLOSE TO YOU- James 4:8 Come close to God, and God will come close to you. (NLT)**

**9. My Journey into the Father’s Love.** I had a hard time seeing God as my Father because of my poor relationship with my earthly father. He worked extremely hard. He was generous. He was charismatic.

10. But he never was intimate. Conversation was one-way, never a dialogue. There was no presence. We never just hung out. No hugs, no “I love you,” no intimacy.
11. Whatever negative perceptions that you had with your natural father, don't project them to your heavenly Father. God is not your earthly father. He is love (1 John 4:8,16).
12. It was until the revival broke out in 1994 that the truth of the Father's love was being restored especially through John Arnott and the Toronto Blessing.
13. I remember **John Arnott said, “The centrality of Christianity is the death and resurrection of Jesus, but the foundation of Christianity is the Father's love.”** He then would quote John 3:16, “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son...” John went on, “When you have a revelation that the Father loves you, it will transform you.”

**C. THE FATHER WANTS TO BLESS YOU!**

1. **It is the Father's good pleasure to give us His Kingdom. (Luke 12:32)**
2. **Matthew 7:11 “If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him!”**
3. He wants you to get the connection of your prayers being answered by a good heavenly Father. He then gets the glory.

**D. BEGIN WORSHIPPING BY THANKING THE FATHER**

1. **Psalm 95:2 Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving.**
2. **Psalm 100:4 Enter His gates with thanksgiving And His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him, bless His name.**
3. Sue and I begin every morning by giving thanks to the Father for what He did for us the day before. We try to be as specific as possible. Some things are small; some things are miraculous.
4. The most powerful time of prayer and fasting in my life was in 1990 when I went on a 10-day water fast. It was one of the hardest fasts I have ever gone on and yet it was the most glorious fast. On the ninth day of the fast, I was in my office having my quiet time. As I began to thank the Father for my wife and my children, something I had done a thousand times, all of a sudden, the glory of God came down and I began to weep profusely. I was being baptized with a fresh baptism of the Father's love.
5. It was soon after that I went to Argentina with Lou Engle and we experienced the Argentine revival in 1991. I came back with an impartation of love for the Body of Christ. I came back and repented before my congregation, Abundant Life Church, and we took up an offering for the churches in our city. That

single act led me to be the Chairman of the First March for Jesus in Pasadena, board member of Love LA, and later the President of TheCall.

**6. Psalm 22:3 Yet You are holy, O You who inhabit the praises of Israel.**

**II. PRAISE GOD FOR WHO HE IS**

**A. MATTHEW 6:9b “HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME”**

- 1. We thank the Father for what He has done and we praise Him for who He is.**
- Holiness is the sum total of His nature and character that sets Him apart from all created beings.
- God is so sacred, so great, so perfect. One aspect of God that makes us so different from Him is that God is uncreated. He never had a beginning. “In the beginning God...”
- A.W. Tozer said, “Worship rises or falls with our concept of God.”**
- The response should be the reverential fear of the Lord. This is how you can be intimate with God and yet fear Him at the same time.
- Father* conveys His love and grace; *holiness* conveys His purity.
- “I praise You for Your love, wisdom, power, etc.”

**B. POWER OF PRAISE- Psalm 149:6**

- Proper protocol in prayer: Enter His gates with thanksgiving and enter His courts with praise (Psalm 100:4).
- Isaiah 60:1 Arise, shine; for your light has come, And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. 2 For behold, darkness will cover the earth And deep darkness the peoples; But the Lord will rise upon you And His glory will appear upon you. 3 Nations will come to your light, And kings to the brightness of your rising... 5 Because the abundance of the sea will be turned to you, The wealth of the nations will come to you.
- Isaiah 60:18 But you will call your walls salvation, and your gates praise.** The *gate* is what comes in and out of your life. The gate in Isaiah 60:11 has the wealth of the nations coming through it. When you grumble and complain, what comes through those gates?
- Death and life are in the power of the tongue. (Proverbs 18:21)**
- 2 Chronicles 20: As the Amorites and Moabites were surrounding Israel, God spoke to King Jehoshaphat.
- 2 Chronicles 20:22 When they began singing and praising, the LORD set ambushes against the sons of Ammon, Moab and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah; so they were routed.**

**C. PRAYER CHANGES YOU**

- You become what you worship.

2. **Isaiah 6:1** In the year of King Uzziah's death I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple. 2 Seraphim stood above Him, each having six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. 3 And one called out to another and said, "Holy, Holy, Holy, is the LORD of hosts, The whole earth is full of His glory." 4 And the foundations of the thresholds trembled at the voice of him who called out, while the temple was filling with smoke. 5 Then I said, "Woe is me, for I am ruined! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I live among a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts."
3. **2 Corinthians 3:18** But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.
4. HE WANTS US TO BE HOLY AS HE IS HOLY
5. **1 Peter 1:15** but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all *your* behavior; 16 because it is written, "YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY."
6. **Romans 6:14** Sin will not have dominion over you because you are not under the law but under grace.
7. You are a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17).
8. Prayer changes you especially as you are going through a trial.
9. Mental health is poor when you try to avoid anything painful, when you're in denial. But praise looks at the reality of the situation and helps you to move beyond the problem onto God.
10. That is why the Bible encourages us, "In everything give thanks" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). James 1:2 says, "Count it all joy when you encounter various trials." Romans 5:3 says, "I exalt in my tribulations..."

### **III. END PRAYER WITH WORSHIP**

- A. **Matthew 6:13b** For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.
- B. Psalm 113:3 "From the rising of the sun to the setting, the name of the Lord is to be praised." You begin with worship and you end with worship.

CONCLUSION: I want to close with a true story about a man named Sol Pol, showing the supernatural power of worship. Even in the most trying circumstances, you can see your life changed by the power of God!