

# CHRISTIANITY 101

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## Lesson #5

### The Importance of Prayer

## MATTHEW 6:5-13

*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 men. I tell you the truth, 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 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 men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins. (NIV)

WHO???

“Who Do I Pray To?”

IN MATTHEW CHAPTER 6 JESUS TAUGHT  
US TO SAY, “OUR FATHER...”

Matthew 6:9

*"This, then, is how you should pray: "Our  
Father in heaven, hallowed be your  
name..."*

# ADDRESS GOD AFFECTIONATELY, YET RESPECTIVELY.

**Gal 4:6** *“And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, ‘Abba, Father!’”* (NKJV).

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# LISTEN TO WHAT JESUS SAID IN HIS SERMON ON THE MOUNT ABOUT WHO WE ARE ADDRESSING IN PRAYER.

**Matt 7:9-11** “Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? 10 Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? 11 If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!”

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Dad

Papa

Rich

Daddy

Pops



# WE ARE THE CHILDREN OF GOD!

## 1 John 3:1

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

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# Hebrews 10

We can now walk boldly before the throne  
and bring our petitions right to God  
Himself.

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# YOU MAY ALSO PRAY TO JESUS

- Anything you ask in MY name

**1 Timothy 2:5** says, *“For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus...”*

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**WHAT???**

**What Should I pray for?**

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- Start with **Praise** for Who God is and what He has done. (*Hallowed be Thy name.*)
- The **Church** (*Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*)
- Your **Needs**. (*Give us this day our daily bread.*)
- Your **Family & Friends**. (*Health, Salvation, Walk with God, life issues, etc.*)
- Your **Enemies**. Matt. 5:4 But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,

- For your **Country**.
  - For **Guidance**. (*Lead us not into temptation*)
  - For **Forgiveness** of sin. (*Forgive us our trespasses...*).
  - For the **Power to be Forgiving**. (*as we forgive those who trespass against us.*)
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- End again in **Praise**. (*For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory forever and ever.*)



**Where???**

**Where should I pray?**

## Matthew 6:5-6

*"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 men**. I tell you the truth, 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.*

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The key to Matthew 6:5 is the Greek word, *hopoos*. It is indicating purpose.[3] Their purpose, their reason for praying is “to be seen of men”.

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- If the only time you pray is when you are in public....you have a big problem.

Some people only read their Bible when  
they are in Church!

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# SIMPLY PRAY...

- WHERE EVER CAN.
  - AS MUCH AS YOU CAN.
  - AS OFTEN AS YOU CAN.
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**How???**

**How should I pray?**

- **Be Sincere & Pray with Good Motives!** Do not be like the hypocrites. They pray out of the wrong motive. They pray to be seen of men. Failure doesn't make you a hypocrite. Pretense and insincerity do.

**James 4:3** *When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.*

- **Don't ramble on. Matt 6:7** *“And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words.”*
  - **Be Personal But Respectful!** *“Hallowed be Thy name.”*
  - **Be Submissive! Matt 6:10** *“Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”*
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- **Pray with Confidence.**

**Hebrews 4:16** Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

**Hebrews 10:19-21** Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup> by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, <sup>21</sup> and since we have a great priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup> let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.

**When???**

**When should I pray?**

# PRAY AT ALL TIMES!!!

## 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Rejoice always; <sup>17</sup> pray without ceasing; <sup>18</sup> in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.