

A Model Prayer for Disciples

Matthew 6:9-15

In the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7), Jesus teaches his followers about prayer. Rather than giving us a prayer to repeat, he provides an example of what prayer should look like. He gives us a framework on which to build our prayers. His model demonstrates that *when we pray, we are to focus on God and his interests before we present our concerns to him.*

- A Model Prayer:** “Pray then like this” (9a)

- Invocation:** “Abba, Father” (9b)

- Requests** (9c-13)
 - **1st Priority: God’s Glory** (9c-10)
 - May your name be honored (9c)

 - May your rule be obeyed (10a)

 - May your will be accomplished (10b)

 - **2nd Priority: Our needs** (11-13)
 - Please meet our needs as we depend on you (11)

 - Please grant us forgiveness and a forgiving spirit (12)

 - Please protect us from falling into sin (13)

- Benediction:** “To God be the glory” (13b)

- Implications:** This prayer is lived in community (14-15)

When you pray, focus on God and his interests before you present your concerns to him.