

# PURSUING PRAYER

**A Few Concluding  
Reflections**



## Matthew 6:5-13

And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others.

Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

“And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do

for they think that they will be heard for their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. Pray then like this: "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 also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do for they think that they will be heard for their many words. Do not be like them

for your **Father knows what you need** before you ask him.

Effective prayer is the fruit of a relationship with God, not a technique for acquiring blessings.

– D. A. Carson



Pray then like this: “Our Father in heaven, **hallowed be your name.**”

It is ironic that the context which forbids meaningless repetition in prayer serves in Matthew's Gospel as the location of the Lord's model prayer; for no prayer has been repeated more than this, very often without understanding.

– D. A. Carson



## 2 Thessalonians 3:1

Finally, brothers, **pray** for us, that the **word** of the Lord may **speed ahead and be honored**, as happened among you

## Romans 10:1

Brethren, my heart's desire and **prayer** to God for them is that **they may be saved**

## Acts 4:29

And now, Lord, look upon their threats and **grant** to your servants to continue to **speak your word with all boldness**

## Phillipians 1:9-10

And it is my **prayer** that your **love** may abound more and more, with **knowledge** and all **discernment**, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ

## Colossians 1:9

And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to **pray** for you, asking that you may be filled with the **knowledge** of his will in all **spiritual wisdom** and **understanding**,

Ephesians 3:14,18

I bow my knees before the Father . . . that you may have **power to comprehend** with all the saints what is the **breadth and length and height and depth and to know the love of Christ** which surpasses knowledge

Luke 22:32

I have **prayed** for you that your **faith may not fail**; and when you have turned again, strengthen your brethren

Mark 9:24

Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; **help my unbelief!**"

Lord, if it will be to Your glory, heal suddenly.

If it will glorify You more, heal gradually.

If it will glorify You even more,  
may your servant remain sick awhile.

And if it will glorify Your name still more,  
take him to Yourself in heaven.



*O. Hallesby*

Prayer is the sincere, sensible, affectionate pouring out of the soul to God, through Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit, for such things as He has promised, for the good of the church with submission in faith to the will of God.

– John Bunyan

