



## CELL GUIDE

TOPIC The Lord's Prayer

SPEAKER

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THEME Digging Deeper: The Practices of the Church DATE

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# MESSAGE SUMMARY

## INTRODUCTION

The Lord hears and answers whenever and wherever we pray. In order to grow in our relationship with God, we need to spend time in prayer daily. Ps Darren shares five types of prayers using The Lord's Prayer (Matt 6:9-13) as a model.

## THE FIVE PRAYERS TO PRAY

### 1) The Person of God

*"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name."* (Matt 6:9)

Our prayers must begin with God. As children of God, we start our prayers by addressing God intimately as our 'Father in heaven'. Psalm 23 reveals many names of God, such as:

- Jehovah Rohi: the Lord, our Shepherd (v1a)
- Jehovah Jireh: the Lord, our Provider (v1b)
- Jehovah Shalom: the Lord, our Peace (v2)
- Jehovah Rapha: the Lord, our Healer (v3a)
- Jehovah Tsidkenu: the Lord, our Righteousness (v3b)
- Jehovah Shama: the Lord who is present, who is with us (v4)
- Jehovah Nissi: the Lord, our Banner (v5)

How has God revealed Himself to you? Has He been any of the above to you? Praise and thank Him for who He is in your life.

### 2) The Kingdom of God

*"Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven"* (Matt 6:10)

In God's Kingdom, we envision a world according to God's ways and principles. In the marketplace, there would be no betrayal, no gossip, no corruption. In our homes, there will be no abuse, no violence, but only love, safety and security. Our bodies will have no illness, no defects, no damaged parts with everything working perfectly. We need to pray for God's reign and rule in ourselves, our oikos (ie. people) and in our environments, homes, workplaces (ie. places).

### 3) The Provision of God

*"Give us this day our daily bread"* (Matt 6:11)

We need to pray to God for our daily sustenance. This verse also reminds us that we are not to hoard. Instead, it is important for us to rely on God and to cultivate a dependence on God, who is our Jehovah Jireh and who will supply all our needs. This verse reminds us to pray for the needs of ourselves and for those around us.

### 4) The Forgiveness of God

*"...and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors"* (Matt 6:12)

When we confess our sins, God will forgive us by His divine grace and love. As believers, we must never forget that the price of forgiveness was dear, paid for by Jesus' life. Hence, we must receive this gift of forgiveness with a weighted gratitude. As we go to God for the forgiveness of our own sins, at the same time, we should seek to forgive those who have offended/hurt us.

### 5) The Protection of God

*"And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."* (Matt 6:13)

This verse speaks of our plea to God, ie. our crying out to Him for protection and for Him to keep us away from temptation, sin and evil. As human beings, we are frail and we need His protection. In fact, more often than not, we cannot see the enemy and may not even know that we are in danger. Hence, we need to pray for ourselves and our loved ones, for God to guard against spiritual temptation and physical harm.

## CONCLUSION

In order to grow our prayer life, we are called to pray not just individually, but also collectively as a body of Christ. Let us take up the challenge to deepen our prayer life and commit to spend time daily in prayer for ourselves, our oikos, our communities, and our nation.

# QUESTIONS

**1. What are the 5 parts of the Lord's prayer that Jesus teaches us to pray? How can you adopt the Lord's prayer in your prayers?**

**2. Reflect on your current prayer routine. What is one step you can take today to build up and grow your prayer life?**

**3. Ask God to reveal to you someone you may need to forgive, or someone who needs prayer. Share with another cell member and pray together.**