

Amity Bible Church

“Knowing God and Making Him Known”

Sunday Bible Study

Series: God is _____

June 18, 2017

Father’s Day

Text: Matthew 6:7-15

Theme: “God is Our Father”

Key Observation: In God’s divine design for the family, He intended that the loving and caring relationship between a father and his children would serve as the model for the relationship between believers and their heavenly Father. Because so many believers have struggled with their relationship with their earthly fathers, it has made their relationship with God more challenging and difficult. The good news is that God is so kind and loving that we can have an intimately relationship with Him despite the emotional scars of our past.

Lessons: There are six requests in the Lord’s Prayer that give us insights into who God, the Father, is and what He is like. The first three requests deal with honoring the name and Person of God and the second three requests are focused on asking the Father to meet our personal needs.

- 1) When we realize that God is our Father, we want people to honor and reverence His name. (Matthew 6:9)**

- a. When we ask that God's name be hallowed, we are not asking God for something that He does not want for Himself. He wants His name to be honored
- b. He wants His name to be honored because the Name of God is synonymous with the Person of God.
- c. We are asking God to cause His word to be believed, to cause His displeasure to be feared, to cause His commandments to be obeyed and cause His name to be revered.
- d. We hallow God's name by trusting and obeying Him.

2) When we realize that God is our Father, we want people to submit to his authority. (Matthew 6:10a)

- a. When we ask the Father to bring the Kingdom, we are asking that His rule and authority be accepted in earth as it is in heaven.
- b. Jesus told the Pharisees in Luke 17:20-21 that the kingdom was among them. He was speaking of His presence and His authority on the earth.
- c. When we ask the Father to bring the kingdom, we are demonstrating our alignment with the will and purpose of God.

3) When we recognize that God is our Father, we want people to do God's will as it is revealed to us. (Matthew 6:10b)

- a. When we pray that God's will be done, we are asking that the will of God as expressed in His word will be as indisputable and as quickly obeyed as it is in heaven.

- b. When we pray the will of God, it is one way to guarantee that your prayer will be answered. God has already said that His word would not return to Him void. It will be accomplished.

4) When we recognize that God is our Father, we can ask that He meet our needs and trust that He will. (Matthew 6:11)

- a. When we pray for God to meet our needs, we must recognize that we are not informing Him of what we need. He already knows before we ask.
- b. If God knows what we need before we ask, why is it necessary to ask? We find the answer in Matthew 7:7. Jesus says that we should ask and it shall be given. God has determined to meet our needs through answered prayer. Our prayers deepen our relationship with Him and He graciously gives to His children.

5) When we recognize that God is our Father, we can ask that He pardon our sins and transgressions. (Matthew 6:12)

- a. When we ask God to forgive us of our sins, it is our acknowledgement that we are indeed sinners.
- b. Even though our sins were washed away when we became believers, we continue to transgress God's Law. That is why it says in 1 John 1:9, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."
- c. If we refuse to forgive those who have sinned against us, we, by our actions, declare ourselves to be unworthy of God's forgiveness, which He freely gives to us.

6) When we recognize that God is our Father, we can ask Him to protect us. (Matthew 6:12)

- a. We know that God has power over the Tempter. When we ask that that we not be led into temptation, we are asking God to constrain the evil one so that He does not entice us to do wrong.
- b. When we ask God to not lead us into temptation, we are acknowledging that we know the dangers of sin and its seductive powers.
- c. When we ask God to not lead us into temptation, we are asking that God take the reins of our lives and protect us from the schemes of the evil one.