

GRACE
Homework
PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Notes from "Luther's Small Catechism" & "Can You Not Tarry One Hour?" by Larry Lea

The Introduction: Our Father, Who art in heaven.

What does this mean? God would by these words tenderly invite us to believe that He is our true Father, and that we are His true children, so that we may with all boldness and confidence ask Him as dear children ask their dear father.

Father Abba Daddy (*picture yourself climbing onto the lap of your Heavenly Father*)

Thank Him that He has chosen to adopt you into His family.

Thank Him that He has paid for your adoption with the blood of His *only begotten* Son, Jesus.

Thank Him for your loved ones that are in heaven right now.

The First Petition: Hallowed by Thy Name.

What does this mean? God's name is indeed holy in itself, but we pray in this petition that it may be holy among us also.

How is this done? When the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead a holy life according to it. This grant us, dear Father in heaven. But he that teaches and lives otherwise than God's Word teaches, profanes the Name of God among us. From this preserve us, Heavenly Father.

Names of God:

The Lord is

- our **righteousness** – Jeremiah 23:6
- the One who **sanctifies** (sets us apart) – John 17:17
- our **peace** – Judges 6:24
- my **shepherd** – Psalm 23
- my **banner** – Exodus 17:15

Thank the Lord for doing these things in your life.

Ask the Lord to reveal areas in which you may be taking His Name in vain, using it carelessly.

The Second Petition: Thy kingdom come.

What does this mean? The kingdom of God comes indeed without our prayer, of itself, but we pray in this petition that it may come unto us also.

How is this done? When our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead a godly life, here in time and hereafter in eternity.

Yourself

Your family (*spouse, children, other relatives*)

Your church (*pastors, other church workers, lay leadership, other members*)

Your neighbors

Your city (*elected officials and others*)

Your nation

Foreign missions

The Third Petition: Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

What does this mean? The good and gracious will of God is done indeed without our prayer; but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.

How is this done? When God breaks and hinders every evil counsel and will which would not let us hallow God's name nor let His kingdom come, such as the will of the devil, the world, and our flesh; but strengthens and preserves us steadfast in His Word and faith unto our end. This is His gracious and good will.

Are you studying God's word to find out what His will is?

Ask the Holy Spirit to help you grow in your appetite to feed upon the word of God.

Ask the Holy Spirit to point out areas of your life where you are outside the will of God and to help you conform to His will.

The Fourth Petition: Give us this day our daily bread.

What does this mean? God gives daily bread indeed without our prayer, also to all the wicked; but we pray in this petition that He would lead us to know it, and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

What is meant by daily bread? Everything that belongs to the support and wants of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, field, cattle, money, goods, a pious spouse, pious children, pious servants, pious and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, discipline, honor, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

Thank the Lord for His provision of these "daily bread" needs in your life.

Ask Him to supply your needs and offer your prayers or requests.

The Fifth Petition: And forgive us our trespass, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

What does this mean? We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look upon our sins, nor on their account deny our prayer; for we are worthy of none of the things for which we pray, neither have we deserved them, but that He would grant them all to us by grace; for we daily sin much and indeed deserve nothing but punishment. So will we also heartily forgive, and readily do good to those who sin against us.

Confess your sins to God and ask for His forgiveness, by virtue of the cross.

Ask the Lord to reveal any sinfulness in your life of which you might not be aware.

Forgive others as you have been forgiven. (*stop making others PAY for the harm they may have caused you*)

Determine that you will forgive anyone who will sin against you.

The Sixth Petition: And lead us not into temptation.

What does this mean? God indeed tempts no one; but we pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us, so that the devil, the world, and our flesh may not deceive us nor seduce us into disbelief, despair, and other great shame and vice; and though we be assailed by them, that still we may finally overcome and obtain the victory.

Put on the armor of God (Ephesians 6:10-18)

- belt of truth
- breastplate of righteousness
- feet covered with the Gospel of peace
- shield of faith
- helmet of salvation
- sword of the Spirit (Bible)

Ask yourself are you allowing yourself to be placed into positions of temptation.

Pray for those you know who face daily temptations.

The Seventh Petition: But deliver us from evil.

What does this mean? We pray in this petition, as the sum of all, that our Father in heaven would deliver us from every evil of body and soul, property and honor, and finally, when our last hour has

come, grant us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this vale of tears to Himself in heaven.

Remember children & grandchildren & God-children.

Remember yourself.

Lord deliver us from evil.

The Conclusion: For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

What is meant by the word "Amen"? That I should be certain that these petitions are acceptable to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us to pray, and his promised to hear us. Amen, Amen, that is, yea, yea, it shall be so.

The Kingdom:

- Thank God that He has moved you out of the kingdom of darkness into His kingdom of light.
- Thank God that He has invited you to work within His kingdom.

The Power:

- Meditate on the power of God. In the face of all your troubles, remember how powerful He is.

The Glory:

- Pray that God will be glorified through you (*made to look good in the eyes of others.*)

When you offer this prayer, do you believe that God can do what you have asked of Him?

Daily Devotional Ideas

- Pick a time and place
- Use the Bible
- Use Christian music
- Journal your thoughts and revelations

The Prayer Goal

- EVERY NIGHT IN EVERY HOME!

Family Devotional Ideas

- Pick a time and place

- Involve everyone
- Make it fit your family
- “The family that prays together stays together.”