

Talk to God

Matthew 6:9-10

The Sermon on the Mount – A Higher order of righteousness

Chapt. 5 vs. 17-20	“I came to fulfill the Law....unless your righteousness exceed that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the Kingdom of heaven.”	
	“You have heard that it was said...”	“But I say to you...”
vs. 21-26	You shall not murder	You can be guilty of murder in your heart
vs. 27-30	You shall not commit adultery	You can be guilty of adultery in your heart
vs. 31-32	You can divorce your wife for any cause	God requires faithfulness
vs. 33-37	Perform the oaths you swear	Do not take an oath, just say yes or no
vs. 38-42	Eye for eye, tooth for tooth	Don't return evil for evil
vs. 43-47	Love your neighbor, hate your enemy	Love your enemies
vs. 48	“You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”	

Chapt. 6 vs. 1	“Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.”		
	“When you...”	Do not do as the hypocrites	“But when you...”
vs. 2-4	Give to the needy	sound trumpet	do not let left hand know what right hand is doing
vs. 5-15	Pray	make a show use empty words	talk to your Father in Heaven
vs. 16-18	Fast	look like you are suffering	look normal
	that they may be seen by others.” Truly I say to you, they have received their reward.”		do so in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.”

Prayer is not to be used to try to impress people or to try to impress God (or the gods).
The way of righteousness is to simply talk to God.

The purpose of prayer is relationship with God, not simply utilitarian.

“Our Father” not “___ Father”

“Our Father” answers Lessing’s philosophical question, “Is the universe _____?”

Are all people automatically God's Children? And how does it happen? (John 1:12-13)

God's Three Requests – God wants these concerns to be so important to us that we begin our praying with them.

1. "Hallowed be your name"

A Name wasn't just a way of identifying an individual; it was the identity, the _____ of the person.

To hallow, means to reverence, to give supreme value, to consider sacred. Do you have anything in your life besides God that you consider to be sacred? Do you find that you look to it for happiness instead of looking to God?

2. "Your Kingdom come"

God's Kingdom is expressed 3 ways

In the _____ in the person of Christ
In the _____ in the person of the believer
In the _____ in all creation

How can you actually help bring about the coming of the Kingdom of God?

3. "Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven"

Wanting God's will to be done on earth means committing myself to two things...

_____ God's will. How do you do that?

_____ God's will. Where do you start?

A Mind-Expanding Concept: Can you re-train yourself that before you think about what matters to you, you think about what matters to God? Can God be important enough to you that what matters to him matters to you?

*We have the privileged relationship with God as our Father.
The better we know him the better we pray and the better we live!*