

Message: “Talk to God” II Pastor Rick Sonerholm Matthew 6:9-15

Review: Last week we looked at the first half of the Lord’s Prayer. Jesus taught it saying, “Pray this way,” meaning it is a guide for how God wants us to talk to him. The first three things we are told to ask are about God – “Your Name, your kingdom, your will.”

It’s more than interesting that before we get to “Give us this day our daily bread,” we are instructed to pray, “Thy will be done...” And Jesus had already said, (vs. 8) “Your Father knows what you need before you ask him.” He could have said, “Your Father knows what you need _____ than even you know...”

So, when in the course of our prayer we get to “Give us this day our daily bread,” we are really saying I’m asking you, who know my needs better than I do, to meet my needs according to your will and in your way.

There is a transition from the first half of the Prayer to the second. From “Your,” to “Our,” from concern for His Glory to dependence on His Grace, from all is for God, to all is from God.

I. “Give us this day our daily bread”

-- God wants us to trust His faithfulness on a daily basis

Asking acknowledges that we are dependent. And that dependence is _____.

Asking and looking for God’s provision on a daily basis, gives us the opportunity to see God’s hand on our lives better than if He provided all we need for the next year, or next 10 years. And seeing God always at work on our behalf leads to _____. (Phil. 4:6)

The three requests are for Bread, Forgiveness, and help with Temptation. The categories are material, spiritual and moral. Do you normally think of your needs in those three ways? Jesus does. He moves here from food for the body, to forgiveness for the soul. Receiving Provision, can lead us to think of receiving Pardon.

II. “Forgive us our Debts”

-- God wants us to pursue a right relationship with Himself and with others

If we could see from God’s point of view what our sins cost him – on two levels – in terms of how our sins hurt others, and go against God’s purposes or will in our life and in our world, and break our relationship with Him and with others, but even more seriously what it cost him in terms of punishment, we would understand how in debt we are to God.

III. “Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.”

-- God want us to be holy as He is holy. (Matt. 5:48 You therefore must be perfect, as your Heavenly Father is perfect.)”

We might be less inclined to pray this, than God is to have us make this request.

Temptation is attractive. It wouldn’t be temptation if it weren’t. We are actually much more concerned with the _____ of sin in our lives than we are with _____ sin.

The Benediction, though of human origin, is entirely consistent with what has already been said, and helps us understand it. Yours is the Kingdom – “your Kingdom come.” And the Power – “your will be done.” And the Glory – “Hallowed be your Name.” Forever – “on earth as it is in heaven.”

So, what does Jesus want? He wants to **1)**provide for us in such a way that we see his hand in our lives and experience gratitude. He wants to **2)**deliver us from the penalty of sin and **3)**give us victory over sin’s power.