

Transformational Praying Pt. 4

“Lord, Teach us to Pray... thy will be done” Luke 11:4; Mt. 6:9

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC Sunday, Oct, 7th

Prayer is foundational to understanding God’s Perspective! (Is. 55:6-8)

The middle of the Sermon on the Mount is specific instruction about how to practice “transformational” prayer. Jesus modeled this so often that his disciples asked him

“Lord, teach us to pray.” (Lk 11:1-4) Mt. 6:9 *“After this manner ...pray ye:”*

1. *“Our Father”* Prayer is based on a Relationship that’s Personal!
2. *“Which art in heaven”*: Based on a Perspective that’s Eternal.
3. *“hallowed be thy name”*: Based on an awareness that’s “awe-filled”!
4. *“Thy Kingdom Come”*: Based on an allegiance that’s Loyal.
5. *“Thy Will be done on earth as it is in heaven”* Mt 6:10

A. Definition: “Thy Will” (thel’ēma) Determination, purpose, decree.

1) Translated: “will, desire, pleasure.” Rev. 4:11

Are we more concerned about pleasing God, or God pleasing us?

B. Implication: God might have a will in this matter.

(a specific purpose, pleasure, determination) Ro. 8:28,29

1) God is aware of every matter equally! Mt. 10:30 *“the very hairs of your head are numbered”* but not everything “matters” equally. (He doesn’t “micro-manage” our lives.)

2) How do we determine this? We ask Him! Pr. 3:5,6

“Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

In all thy ways acknowledge him, (yada’:consider, perceive, recognize, understand!) and he shall direct thy paths.” (yashar’: Make straight, pleasant, prosper) See 1 Cor. 2:8-10

3) Why don’t we do this? (Trust, ask)

a) We’re too busy trusting ourselves. *“lean not unto thine own understanding”* vs 5 & vs 7

(1) This (pride) is a byproduct of sin. Gen. 3:5 *“Ye shall be as gods...”*

(2) This is the source of most of our stress! Phil. 4:6-8 (See also 2 Cor. 12:7-9)

b) We’re ignorant of His Nature. It’s hard to trust someone you don’t know!

(1) His Ability: Can he Help? Gen. 18:15 *“Is there anything too hard for the Lord?”* (Ps. 50:15)

(2) His Empathy: Does He care? Jer. 31:3 *“I have loved thee with an everlasting Love”*

Jn 5:39 *“Search the scriptures... they testify of me”*

Heb 4:15-16 *“For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.”*

c) We’re ignorant of His Will. God gives us a clear process to discerning His Will:

Ro 12:1,2 *“present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable (logikos’) service. And be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed, (metamorpho’o) by the renewing of your mind,”* (Anakai’nōsis nous: Renovation of your understanding!)



This is at the heart of Repentance! Ro 12:2:
“That ye may prove (dokimazo: prove & approve) what is that Good (agathos: beneficial) and acceptable (euar’estos: fully agreeable) and perfect (telios: complete, mature) will of God.” (thel’ema theos: The pleasure and purpose of the Supreme God.

C. Complication/ Application: What about “My Will”?

1) Submission must *precede* Revelation.

Ro. 12:1 *“present yourselves a living sacrifice”* comes before Ro 12:2

“that ye may prove what is that good, acceptable and perfect will of God.”

- a) Jesus modeled this in Gethsemane! Mt. 26:39 *“O my Father, If it be possible, Let this cup pass from me: nevertheless Not as I will, but as thou wilt!”*

2) Submission is *painful* to our flesh. Mt 16:246 *“If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. “*

3) Submission is *Prudent*. Mt. 16:25-27 *For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? When the Son of man shall come in Glory...Then he shall reward every man according to his works”*

4) Submission is the *path* to *intimacy*. Jn 14:21 *“He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.”*

Eph. 5:21 *“Submitting yourselves one to another ,In the fear of God!”*

Conclusion: God asks a lot! But He’s given everything! And offers so very much. 1 John 5:14 *“this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us”*

Jesus invites us all to: *“Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me...and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” (Mt. 11:28,29)*

“My Thy will be done!

Are you willing to surrender to your sovereign?

Luke 6:46 *“Why call me Lord, Lord, and do not the things that I say?”*