

# Transformational Praying Pt. 6

*“Lord, Teach us to Pray...”* Luke 11:4;

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC Sunday, Oct, 28<sup>th</sup>

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:”*

- *“Our Father”* Prayer is based on a Personal Relationship!
- *“Which art in heaven”*: Based on an Eternal Perspective.
- *“hallowed be thy name”* : Based on an Powerful awareness!
- *“Thy Kingdom Come”* Based on a Partisan Allegiance!
- *“Thy Will Be done.”* Based on a Purposeful Submission.
- *“Give us this day our daily bread”* Notice that Prayer for Practical Provision comes after we seek: *“Thy Name... thy Kingdom... Thy Will”*

## 1. God’s Priorities should come before Personal petitions (*wants*) and Practical provisions. (*Our “Worries” or needs*)

A. Jesus consistently taught this. Mt. 6:19-30

*“Lay not up for yourselves treasures on earth.. but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven..For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also!...No man can serve two masters...Ye cannot serve God and \_\_\_\_\_!”*

1) *“Therefore. Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat...drink...put on.*

(merimna’ō: anxiety, worry. from meriz’o: divided and distracted.)

*Is not the life more than meat, (Food) and the body than raiment?” (Clothes)*

2) Vs 26 *“behold the fowls of the air... your heavenly Father feeds them.*

*...which of you by taking thought can add one cubit...? Consider the lilies... Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass... Shall not He much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?”*

B. What do our thoughts (merimna’ō: Fears & frustrations) have to do with faith?

1) Pressures often reveal Priorities! (What’s truly important to us)

## 2. Our priorities demonstrate our persuasion. (Beliefs)

A. Faith (pistis) literally means Persuasion.

B. Becoming persuaded usually involves a process! Ro. 10:17

Faith (Persuasion) grows through:

1) Intentional Interaction. Is. 1:18 *“Come now and let us reason together saith the LORD...”*

Is 55:3 *“Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you”* 6 *“Seek the Lord while He may be found”*

2) Genuine Consideration. Hag. 1:5 *“thus saith the Lord, consider your ways”*

Is. 55:8,9 *“my thoughts (plans) are not your thoughts, neither are your ways, my ways.*

Mt 4:17 *“Repent for the Kingdom of heaven is at hand”* metanoe’ō: Literally to reconsider!

Meta: (preposition) “after, amid” Noye’o: (verb) to exercise the mind, comprehend, perceive.

3) Humble **reconciliation**. Is. 55:7, 8 *“Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts... let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; for he will abundantly pardon.”*

C. Notice how Jesus **illustrated** this process of Growing in our faith by adjusting our priorities. (Mt. 6)

- 1) Intentional Interaction. (**Connect!**) Vs 9-15 *“Our Father in heaven...”*
- 2) Genuine consideration. (**Reflect**) 21,24 *“where your treasure is, there will your heart be also... No man can serve two masters”* 24-31 *“is not the life more than meat? Behold the fowls, consider the lilies... Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat or drink or..be clothed? For after all these things do the Gentiles seek; (People who don’t know God!) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.”*
- 3) Humble reconciliation (**Reconcile**) Mt 6:33 *“but seek ye first (proton: primarily) the kingdom of God, (basileia: realm, royalty, rule) and his righteousness; (equity of character) and all these things (that you need) shall be added unto you.”*

### Conclusion:

Connect (*Intentional Interaction*) + Reflect (*Genuine Consideration*)  
+ Reconcile (*Humble Reconciliation*) = Rest (Peaceful Restoration)

Jesus not only taught this, but He also modeled this process. Mt 26:38-46

Mt 26:38 *“My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death... watch with me”*

- **Connect:** 39 *“He prayed... O my father, If it be possible, let this cup pass.”*
- **Reflect:** *“Nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt.”*  
40, 41 *“And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak,”*
- **Reconcile:** 42 *“He went away again the second time, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done.”*
- **Rest** Lk 22:43 *“And there appeared an angel... from heaven, strengthening him.”*

Peace (eirēnē: to join) comes through **partnership** with God! (Phi. 4:6-7)

### Application:

Mt. 6:33 *“seek ye first the kingdom of God... All these things shall be added”*

- 1) Which “Kingdom” is really first in your priorities and prayers?
- 2) Where are you in this process of growing your faith? Are you...  
Connecting with God? Reflecting on God’s priorities?  
Reconciling with God’s plans?

Jesus closed with a warning about the “Cancer” of Complacency!

Mt 6:34 *“Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient (arketos’ enough) unto the day (hemer’a: gentle, tame period) (enough to keep us comfortably at ease) is the evil (kaki’a: malignity) thereof.”*