

Prayer and Perspective

“Lord teach us to pray” Luke 11:1

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC Sunday, Nov 25th

We don't usually see life as it is, But as we are! We process what we see through our past experiences and understanding. These affect our perception and perspective!

Our perspective affects our priorities! Our priorities affect our Prayers!

If our perspective and priorities are wrong, then our prayers will be wrong!

James 4:1-3 *“ye ask and receive not Because ye ask amiss...”* *Kakos: diseased (infected by the flesh) intrinsically worthless.* If we don't realign our perspectives so that they're in harmony with

God's, then our prayers (and life purposes) will be “intrinsically worthless.” (Mk 8:36)

Our praying should influence our perspectives and priorities! (2 Cor. 3:18; Phil. 2:1-11)

Prayer is ultimately about perspective! Lk 11:1 *“Lord, teach us to pray”*

The first word of this request is the key to unlocking the power of prayer!

“Lord” (ky'rios) literally means “Supreme Authority”.

Mt. 6:9 *“After this manner pray:”*

1. **“Our Father”** Prayer is Personal!

He's not Santa, He's “Abba” (daddy!) Ro. 8:15-18 *“ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; ... if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.*

2. **“In heaven”** (It's about Perspective) Is. 55:6-9 *“my ways are not your ways, as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways”*

3. **“Hallowed by thy name”** It's (He's) Powerful! (Awe-full!) Gen 18:14 *“Is any thing too hard for the LORD?”* Eph 3:20 *“Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us”*

4. **“Thy Kingdom come”** (It's Partisan) Joshua 24:15

“If it seem evil (worthless) unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”

1 Kings 18:21 *“How long halt ye between two opinions?”* (sâ'iph: remain divided)

James 1:8 *“A double minded (dip'sychos: two souled!) man is unstable in all his ways.”* Laodicea!?

James 1:7 *“Let not that man think that he shall receive anything of the Lord.”* (kyrios)

5. **“Thy Will be done”** (It's Purposeful!) Ro. 8:29,29 *“All things work together for good to them that love God... to those who are called according to His purpose”*

Klētōs': invited and appointed! (2 Cor. 5:20)

Jer 29:11 *“For I know the thoughts (plans) that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, (shalom: completed) and not of evil, (ra: wrong, harm, hurt) to give you an expected end.”*

(tiqwâ': Hope, *“the thing that I long for!”* Job 6:8 Who's the “I” here? (Ps. 37:3-5)

6. **“Give us...our daily bread”** (It’s *Practical*) Mt 6:30
*“consider the birds...the lilies, If God so clothe the grass of the field, ...s
 shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?”*
7. **“Forgive us ...as we forgive”** (It’s *Purifying!*) 1 Jn 1:6-9
*“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship...,
 and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.”*
8. **“Lead us not into temptation...”** (It’s *Persevering*) Jms 1:2-4
*“The trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work,
 that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting (lacking) nothing.”*
9. **“Deliver us from Evil”** (It’s *Protective*) Jude 24-25
*“Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence
 of his glory with exceeding joy, To the only wise God, be glory...majesty, dominion and power...”*

Conclusion:

Instead of our perspectives/ priorities influencing our prayers,
 Our Praying should influence our perspectives and priorities!
 Mt 4:17 *“Repent: (reconsider) for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”*

Application: Mt. 6:13

“For thine is the kingdom (Basileia: rule, royalty, realm)
And the power, (dyn’amis: power, ability)
And the glory (doxa: honor, worship)
Forever. (eis aeon: into perpetuity) *Amen!”* (Surely, it will be!)

Mt 6:24 *“No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the
 other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other.
 Ye cannot serve God and mammon.”*

Joshua 24:15 *“Choose ye this day whom ye will serve”*
Choose Carefully, and Prayerfully!