

Transformational Praying Pt. 2

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

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC Sunday, Sept. 23

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”*

A. The What (hallowed Definition) hagiaz’ō: Sanctified, Venerated, Holy.

1) Comes from hagios (sacred) which comes from hagos, meaning **awful.**

a) Awful can mean dreadful / unpleasant. (Something to be avoided!)

b) Awful can also mean “Full of Awe”! *“a reverential respect mixed with fear and wonder.”* Something to be cherished!

➤ Which best describes your prayer life?

➤ Which do you think God intends? Ps 33:8 *“Let all the earth fear the LORD:*

let all ...of the world stand in awe of him.” (See also Ps. 96:6-9)

B. The Why: Why should we “hallow” God’s name? (Explanation)

1) Our Performance (actions / commitments) to/for God is related to our Perspective (attitude / Concept) of God! Ps 111:10 *“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments.”*

2) Our Protection (coming from God) is tied to our perception of God. Ps. 34:7

3) Our Provision (From God) is tied to our Perception of God. Ps 34:8-10

O taste and see that the LORD is good... O fear the LORD, ye his saints: for there is no want to them that fear him. ...they that seek the LORD shall not want any good thing.”

Jn 14:13-14 *“whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.”*

Name (on’oma) authority and/or character. Consistent with the Character of Jesus!

4) Our Peace (With God) is tied to our Perception of God. Phil. 4:6,7

Remember Elisha in 2 Kings 6:15-17 *“Lord open his eyes that he may see!”*

Conclusion: *“hallowed be thy name”*

What? “Filled with Awe!”

Why? It motivates our Performance, ensures our Protection, Provision and Peace.

Application: How can we to “hallow” God’s name.

Ps. 34:11 *“Come ye children, hearken unto me, I will teach you the fear of the Lord”.*

Prayer is simply intimate conversation that results in communion with God.

Successful, intimate (transformational) communication requires.

1) Preparation: Amos 4:12 *“prepare to meet thy God”*

Hosea 10:12 *“break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the LORD, till he come and rain righteousness upon you.”* (An unplowed field isn’t ready for seed!)

It involves honest confession! 1 Jn. 1:5-10

2) Recognition of the:

a) Purpose of Prayer. (Heb. 4:16) *“obtain Mercy and Grace”*

b) Power of Prayer. (Jer. 33:3; James 5:16)

c) Privilege of Prayer. (Luke 12:32) *“Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.”*

3) Visualization (Focus) on the:

a) Glory of God. (Is. 6; Rev. 4; Ex. 33)

b) Grace of God. (He. 4:16; Titus 2:11,12; Phil. 2:13)

c) Goals of God. (Rev. 4:11; Ro. 8:29)

2 Cor. 3:18 *“with open face the glory of the Lord are changed into the same image, from glory to glory, even by the Spirit of the Lord”*

4) Participation. “Just do it” James 4:2 *“Ye have not because ye ask not”*

Jn 16:24 *“Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.”*

Israel experienced the first three, but refused the last one.

You cannot have intimacy without vulnerability! Ex. 20:18

“all the people saw the thunders, and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking: and when the people saw it, they removed, and stood afar off.”

Most prefer to keep God at a “comfortable distance”. Ex. 20:19-21

“And they said unto Moses, Speak thou with us, and we will hear: but let not God speak with us, lest we die. And Moses said unto the people, Fear not: (Don’t be filled with dread, but with Awe!)

for God is come to prove you, and that his fear may be before your faces, that ye sin not.

”And the people stood afar off, and Moses drew near unto the thick darkness where God was.”

Transformational Praying happens when we stop trying to change God, and allow God to change us! 2 Cor 3:18

“But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.”

“Lord, teach us to pray!”