

PLEASANT VIEW PROCLAIMER

December 5, 2021

Sermons from the Sermon - Lesson 7 Prerequisites for Effective Prayer (Matthew 6:9-15)

This morning we continue our series from the Sermon on the Mount called *Sermons from the Sermon* by again looking at Jesus' model prayer in Matthew 6:9-13. Last week we looked at the content of this prayer, and what we can learn from the pattern Jesus presented to apply to our own prayer life. This week our focus will be on two types of relationships the model prayer assumes we will have in place before we approach God in prayer. I tend to think of these like prerequisites for taking a specific class in college. These two relationships are the basis for all of God's commandments and are emphasized throughout scripture (Mat 22:34-40; Exo 20:3-17; 1 John 4:19-5:5).

1. _____ Relationship - "Our Father..." (9)

What gives us the privilege to be able to refer to the almighty God as "Father"? It is because of our spiritual relationship with Him. We have been spiritually "born again" of the creator. This was something that Nicodemus did not understand in John 3.

John 3:3-4 (ESV) - ³ Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is **born again** he cannot see the kingdom of God."
⁴ Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?"

What characterizes this spiritual relationship with God that allows me to call him "Father"? Paul said that we can be adopted as sons and fellow heirs with Christ if we suffer with Him.

(Over)



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*A Breath of Prayer in the morning
Means a day of blessing sure
A Breath of prayer in the evening
Means a night of rest secure
A Breath of prayer in our weakness
Means a clasp of a mighty hand
A Breath of prayer when we're lonely
Means someone to understand
A Breath of prayer in our doubting
Assures us the Lord knows best
A Breath of Prayer in our sorrows
Means comfort and peace and rest
A Breath of prayer in rejoicing
Gives joy and added delight
For they that remember God's goodness
Go singing far into the night
There's never a year nor a season
That prayer may not bless every hour
And never a soul need be helpless
When linked with God's infinite power*

Romans 8:14-17 (ESV) - ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are **sons of God**. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of **adoption as sons**, by whom we cry, "**Abba! Father!**" ¹⁶ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ **and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.**

Suffering is the pinnacle of righteousness before God and exemplified in the beatitudes (Matthew 5:10-11). To reach a point of being persecuted for our beliefs, we must allow our faith in Christ to infiltrate all areas of our lives. The reason why spiritual maturity results in suffering is because genuine righteousness is always offensive to the world.

2 Timothy 3:10-12 (ESV) - ¹⁰ You, however, have followed... ¹¹ my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra—which persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. ¹² **Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,**

2. _____ Relationship – “as we...have forgiven...”
(12)

The only thing that limits the amount of mercy we can receive from God, is the amount of mercy we are willing to show to our fellow man (Mat 6:14-15, 18:21-35)

Matthew 6:14-15 (ESV) - ¹⁴ For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, ¹⁵ but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Ultimately, we will be judged on the mercy we were willing to show to others (Mat 25:31-46).

PRAYER LIST

- **Freddie Brown** has been diagnosed with liver cancer
- **Pat Agee**, Tim’s father, is recovering from a mini stroke
- Jearmie’s aunt **Louise Tinsley** is on hospice at home
- **Isabel Johnson**, 16-year-old friend of the Agees, completed her first round of chemo.
- **Hunter Crouch** is recovering from a kidney transplant
- **LaDonno family** during the holidays after the loss of their mother
- Continue to remember **Kristine Garrett, Faye Waller, John Hayes, and Ann Reed**

SERVING TODAY (December 5, 2021)

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Read: E. Walker
Prayer: J. Walker

WORSHIP

Read: S. Shatto
Wait On Table: J. Baker
Serve: J. Demonbreun, J. Buchanan
Prayer: D. Billingsley