

The 3rd Sunday in Lent ~ Sunday, March 4, 2018

“A House of Prayer ~ The Pattern of Prayer”

Luke 11:1-13

Whatever method we use, what’s important, is that we _____ to God.

“Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.” (Luke 11:1)

Ever since Adam and Eve were cast out of the garden, humanity has had a deep, _____, desire-wired into their very DNA—to return to a place of _____ connection with God.

”You have made us to be with you and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you.” (St. Augustine)

God created us to be in _____ with Him; He formed us for intimacy and _____ with Him; and we all have a God-shaped _____ within us—a hunger and thirst for God—sometimes that we’re not even consciously aware of.

“As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.” (Psalm 42:1-2)

Shadow affections =

These things is they only bring _____ relief, leaving us hunger, thirsty, and more _____ than when we began.

Where have you gone to satisfy this hunger?

What have you tried to squeeze into the God-shaped hole within you?

This hunger and thirst—this God-shaped hole—can only be fully _____ in _____.

The LP isn’t just a prayer—it’s a _____. What we learn from it is an outline; a _____ for prayer; and a pattern that we can follow. Just as Jesus is our role model for prayer, the Lord’s Prayer is a _____ for praying. More than a formula to be memorized and recited from rote, the LP is a _____ that provides the structure for all our prayers.

The LP also addresses the ultimate purpose of prayer, and can be viewed as a blueprint for our _____ with God.

6 ELEMENTS OF PRAYER

#1. The _____ of Prayer ~ “Our Father”

This was a pretty _____ concept in Jesus’ day.

Father = *Abba* =

This term indicates a _____ trust in our heavenly Father; and the more we _____ what our heavenly father is like, the more we will readily _____ into His arms in prayer.

Jesus transforms our understanding of God from a distant and _____ deity to that of an _____ father or daddy.

“And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” (Galatians 4:6)

God isn’t _____ or detached from His children; nor is He an angry _____ looking for an opportunity to _____ us.

He wants us to embrace Him as our Father and to come to Him without fear of retribution or _____. He wants us to come boldly into His presence, having the _____ that He’s eager to hear the prayers

How would you describe your relationship with God?

How do you address Him in prayer?

#2 The _____ of Prayer ~ “Hallowed by your name.”

God is _____ like a Father and at the same time, _____ in holiness; and our open access to Him through Christ should never remove our _____ for Him

Our first petition shouldn’t be on our own _____, but on His; and praying, “hallowed by your name,” is a safeguard against _____ prayer.

Holy = *hagiazō* =

- To make an ordinary thing _____ by bringing it into contact with something extraordinary.

“You shall be holy, for I am holy.” (1 Peter 1:16)

- To treat something or someone as _____. To “hallow” God’s name is to hold His matchless being in _____ and veneration; to guard against becoming flippant and _____ in our view of Him.

One of the ways that we can do this is by living a life of _____ to Him. This is where prayer _____. Before we can start asking for what we want, we need to ask for _____ we should be in light of God's holiness.

Are we approaching God with holy reverence and respect when we pray?

Are we "hallowing" God by the way we are living?

#3. The _____ of Prayer ~ "Your kingdom come."

Prayer isn't asking God to do our _____; it's bringing ourselves into _____ with His. It's not letting God in on our plans, but allowing God to _____ His plans through us.

Kingdom = *basileia* =

To pray, "Your kingdom come," is to pray that God's gentle and loving _____ would be manifested in my _____, in this church, in our city, in nation—in every facet of _____.

3 aspects of praying for God's kingdom to come

- _____ . We need to pray that people would bow before Christ and be _____.
- _____ . As believers, we need to daily _____ to the royalty residing in us and bow before His _____ in our lives.
- _____ . One day the heavens are going to split open, and Christ will descend and He establish His _____ kingdom.

There's absolutely no reason to pray, "your kingdom come," unless we fully intend to _____ with the establishment of God's rule in our own lives. And the more we _____ to God's reign in our own lives, the more effectively God will be able to use us to _____ His kingdom on earth.

Whose will do you want to be done—yours or God's?

How open are you to God reigning in your life?

The first half of this prayer focusses on _____; the second half focuses on _____. In other words, once we give God His _____ place, we'll have the proper _____ toward ourselves to pray.

#4. The _____ of Prayer ~ "Give us each day our daily bread."

This petition isn't just about _____, but the totality of our _____ life.

When we pray, "Give us each day our daily bread," we're recognizing God as our Jehovah Jireh—the Lord our _____; and we're acknowledging our _____ on His strength, His power, and His provision.

this trust in God is for each _____. Like the manna that came down every morning, God provides for us one day at a time—and yesterday's _____ is useless to fight today's battles.

Sometimes we can rely too much on our experiences with God in the _____. We need a fresh _____ of God in our lives everyday. God doesn't give us a reservoir of grace, but rather expects us to turn to Him daily for the grace _____ to meet the challenges that we face. And if we don't ask God to give us what we need every day, we'll gradually succumb to the _____ that we can actually provide for those needs ourselves.

Do you look to God for your daily bread or are you content providing for yourself?

#5. The _____ of Prayer ~ "Forgive us our sins..."

Forgiveness of sin is the greatest _____ of the human heart. It's been my observation that there's one thing that troubles Christians more than anything else, it's _____.

"There is now no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus." (Romans 8:1)

This petition however, isn't just a prayer for forgiveness, it's also a prayer for a forgiving _____. When we fail to forgive someone, we set ourselves up as a higher _____ than God.

"Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift." (Matt 5:23-24)

Is there anyone who comes to mind who is in need of your forgiveness?

Have you been holding someone captive? Who have you wronged?

#6. The _____ of Prayer ~ "And lead us not into temptation."

this petition accepts the _____ and danger of temptation; acknowledges our _____ in dealing with it; and asks for God's _____. Temptation = *peirasmos* =

"No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; He will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it." (1 Corinthians 10:13)

God is _____. He won't leave us to face our temptations alone. Ask God to lead you away from it and look for His way _____.

What temptations are you susceptible to? How do you deal with them?