

21 DAYS OF PRAYER

Luke 1:1-4, 9 (ESV)

¹ 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.**” ² And he said to them, “When you pray, say:

“Father, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come.”

³ **Give us** each day our daily bread,

⁴ and **forgive us** our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us.

And **lead us** not into temptation.”

⁹ And I tell you, **ask**, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

Big Idea

The New Testament clearly and repeatedly teaches that God loves for His children to ask Him for what we need. In verses 3 and 4, Jesus taught that we are to **petition** God for our *present* necessities. There are many verses in the NT that instruct on what, when, why, and how we should ask God for the things we need (***see the list of verses on the next page***). We are also to practice **confession** because we need forgiveness (*past* needs), and we need the power to forgive others. Finally, we are to ask for **protection** (*future* needs) from the daily temptations we face. As you pray today, remember to incorporate these three areas into your conversation with your heavenly Father. God wants to supply what we need for our past, present, and future!

Discussion Questions

- What impacted you most about today’s video teaching?
- How does the fact that God wants you to ask Him for the things you need encourage your prayers?
- Are you coming before God with a thankful heart? What are some things you can thank Him for today?

- When Joseph reflected on all his trials, he said to his brothers, “you meant it for evil, but God meant it for good.” How would that perspective affect your prayer life? Your attitude towards those who have wronged you?

Prayer Focus

As you pray today, focus on gratitude and give God thanks for all the things He has done in your life. Confess the sins that need His forgiveness and ask Him to reveal to you those you need to forgive. If necessary, ask Him to give you a forgiving spirit and guidance on how to reconcile with anyone you have offended.

Next Step

Look at the list of scriptures below. Read through them this week and write down the key points. As you pray this week, practice applying these teachings to reform/conform how you ask God to meet your needs. Note any changes in your perspective in your journal.

Extra Scriptures:

- **John 14:13**--Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.
- **John 15:7**--If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.
- **John 15:16**--You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.
- **John 16:23**--In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you.
- **Ephesians 3:20**--Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us...
- **James 1:5**--If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.
- **James 4:2**--You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask.
- **1 John 5:14-15**-- And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.
- **Colossians 1:9**-- And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding...