

Monday

Read Matthew 6:9-13

Let's keep the first thing first. If you do not know the Lord's Prayer, memorize it starting today. Even if you aren't sure you believe in God, learn it and see what happens in your life. Memorize the Lord's Prayer.

And for all of us, pray it each day. From now until eternity. Day by day, you will be transformed into the person Jesus wants you to be. By praying the Lord's Prayer with the motivation to be in presence of God and in communication with God, your life will start to change: your concerns, priorities, motivations, worldview, etc. You will be more aligned with the ways of God in Jesus Christ.

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name
Thy Kingdom come,
Thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread
and forgive us our debts
as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the Kingdom
and the power
and the glory forever. Amen.

Second, if you've got people in your care, make it your priority to teach them the Lord's Prayer and teach them what the words mean in ways they can understand.

Tuesday

Read 1 Chronicles 29:10-13 (bonus: read to v. 19)

David offers God rich praise and adoration in this passage. You have the Lord's Prayer in the other column. Compare David's prayer in verses 10-13 with the Lord's Prayer. How are David's words similar to the themes of the Lord's Prayer?

When we read other prayers in scripture it adds to our prayer vocabulary and adds richness to our prayers. Using David's prayer and the Lord's Prayer, spend some time in prayer this morning adding words to these strong prayers to make them your own.

Consider joining us for lunchtime prayers today at noon!

Wednesday

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:17

The six petitions of the Lord's Prayer give us the riverbanks that guide us in our prayers. We do not need to limit our words in prayer to the very words of the Lord's Prayer but they should serve to contain the themes of our prayers. Pray the Lord's Prayer today and use these riverbanks to guide your prayers and allow your prayer to flow within them:

1. Adore God
2. Honor God as King
3. Align with God's will
4. Thank God
5. Confess Sin
6. Pray for the needs of all

Thursday

Read 1 Timothy 2:1-4

This passage falls under the riverbank of "pray for the needs of all," so let's spend some time brainstorming. Prayer can be whatever the Spirit puts on your heart in the moment, but prayer can also be something you consider before lifting them up. This simple activity might help.

Grab a blank sheet of paper and write in the very center "pray for the needs of all" and/or "lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil." Draw a happy circle or cloud around it. Now, tap into the Holy Spirit and consider people, places, events, and situations that fall under this category. For each item, draw a line from the main circle, write the item, and then draw a circle or cloud around it. Keep branching off of all the clouds with items for prayer, specific prayers, etc. You can fill your page with clouds! Now, spend some time in prayer, using the sheet as a reference.

This is a marvelous way to generate (and hold onto!) ideas. You can do this with each of the six riverbanks. One a day, all of them at once, somewhere in-between!

Friday

We return to our prior practice of prayerfully reading the scripture for the next Sunday's worship. You are invited to read and reflect upon Psalm 103:10-14 and Matthew 5:14-15.