



DAILY
*Prayer
Guide*

21-28 APRIL 2024

One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray...."

Luke 11 v 1

HOW TO Pray?

The disciples would have seen and heard Jesus pray on many occasions. There was something about the way their teacher prayed that was different. They wanted to know how to pray like he prayed. So, they said...

Lord, teach us to pray.

We, like the disciples, need Jesus to teach us to pray. Prayer is a joy - it is extraordinary that we can talk with the creator of the universe - but sometimes we don't even know where to start, and can get distracted.

But Jesus, in his kindness, has given us a model we can use at any time, in any day, for anything we are facing or any need we have.

So, this week, let's say together: *'Lord, teach us how to pray'*. Using the shape of a hexagon, we will be working through The Lord's Prayer line by line.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation.

But deliver us from the evil one.



The Bible tells us that Jesus often prayed early in the morning in a solitary place. This week, why not make a plan to find a time and a place to pray each day - morning or evening, inside or outside.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
(Matthew 6 v 9)

Today we focus on the Father's character. The use of the word Father describes the intimate relationship we can have with God. He is *our* Father.



Jesus referred to God as his Father because he was the Son of God. But, Jesus is teaching us that we can also enjoy the same relationship with the Father that he enjoyed.

God is close, he is our Father, and at the same time he is holy. His name is to be hallowed – which means to be greatly revered and honoured.



As you pray today...

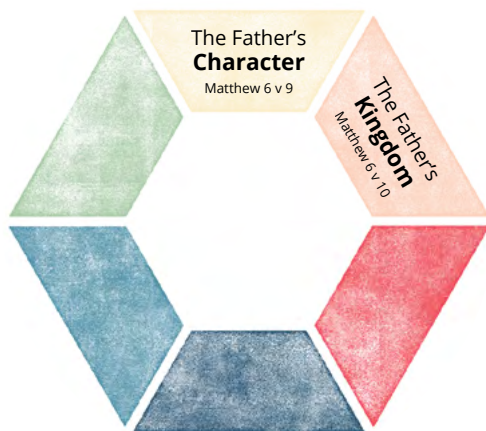
1. Meditate on the following verses that speak of how we may know God as 'Father' - 1 John 3 v 1-2, John 1 v 12-13, Romans 8 v 14-17, 2 Corinthians 6 v 18
2. Our Father is holy. Take some time to worship him today - you could use The King's Church Spotify list at tkc.org.uk/spotify or search for 'King's Church Mid-Sussex Worship'.

Day 2

Tuesday 23 April
THE FATHER'S KINGDOM

Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
(Matthew 6 v 10)

Today we focus on the Father's Kingdom. It's amazing that we have been adopted into God's family and can call him Father. But here, Jesus reminds us that our Father is also the King who has an unshakable Kingdom.



This line helps us to align our desires, plans, ambitions and hopes with our King and his Kingdom. We pray for his Kingdom - full of righteousness, peace and joy - to break out in our worlds today!

Where do we long to see more of God's rule and reign? In our families and relationships? In our workplaces? At school or college? In our life group, church and community?

Where do you need to know his will being fulfilled? Are you facing a crossroads in your life and need his direction?



As you pray today...

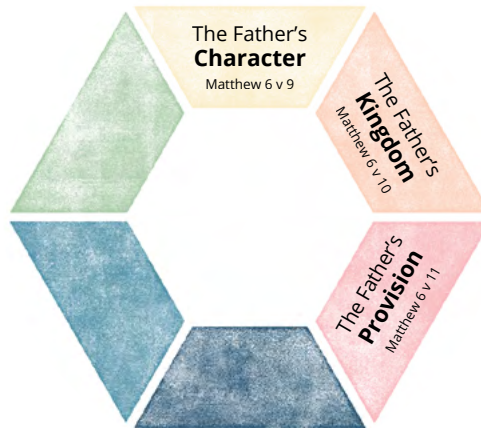
1. Think about your plan for this week - what's in your diary? What decisions do you need to make? Pray that God's will would be done in every moment of your week.
2. Pray for our church - for his Kingdom to come - for us to know more of his joy, peace, power and presence.

Day 3

Wednesday 24 April
THE FATHER'S PROVISION

Give us today our daily bread.
(Matthew 6 v 11)

Today we bring our needs before our Father and King. We have physical needs – shelter, food, clothing. We have health needs in our bodies. We have spiritual and emotional needs. We have needs as a local church. All of these things can be included in 'daily bread' prayers.



As we bring our needs to our Father in prayer - even the smallest things - we are declaring our trust in God believing that he is good and that he is our provider.



As you pray today...

1. Why not go for a walk and consider what Jesus says in Matthew 6 v 25-34; he encourages us to look at how God provides and cares for creation, to help us know how he also provides and cares for us. As you walk, tell your Father what you need today.
2. Pray for our 'Daily Bread' as a church - it is a challenging financial climate. Pray for God to provide our 'Daily Bread' - he knows what we need.

Join us as we pray together tonight, 8pm, at Haywards Heath URC

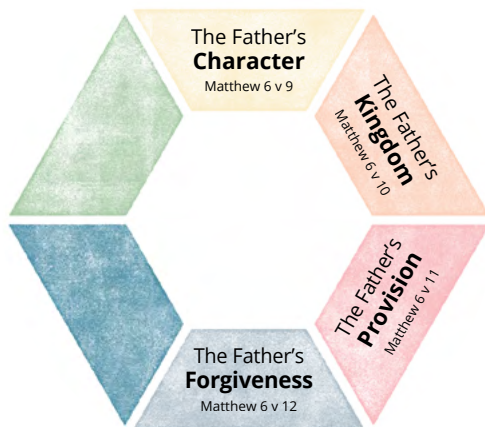
Day 4

Thursday 25 April
THE FATHER'S FORGIVENESS

*And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.
(Matthew 6 v 12)*

Today, we bring to our Father and King those situations where we need to seek his forgiveness. God has rescued us to live as new creations in him in his Kingdom, but at times we do, think or say things that don't honour him or the new life that we have.

The Bible is clear: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1 v 9)



Today also gives us an opportunity to forgive those who may have intentionally or unintentionally wounded us. Receiving the Father's forgiveness and grace helps us when we need to forgive others.

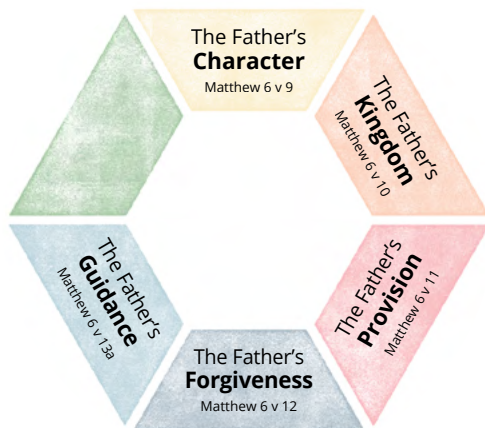


As you pray today...

1. Are there any things you need to confess before the Lord today and ask for his forgiveness? Remember, he has promised to forgive us - amazing!
2. Pray for our relationships in the church - Jesus prayed we may be one, united in him and each other. That's why forgiving one another is so important. Pray for our unity.

And lead us not into temptation.
(Matthew 6 v 13a)

Today we think about the places we go and the choices we make. We are called by Jesus to 'go', to live our lives as ambassadors for him, to be in the world but not of the world.



But we recognise that there are all kinds of messages, places, and distractions that may take our eyes off the King and his Kingdom and lead us into things that are unhelpful and dangerous.

Jesus taught us to pray that we would know God's leading so that we would not be led into places or situations that tempt us to live a life apart from him.



As you pray today...

1. What are the most dangerous temptations you face? Ask your Father to help you today, to keep your eyes fixed on him and have the strength to say no.
2. Listen again to Jim's message from Sunday 21 April at tkc.org.uk/live. Pray for the things we feel God has called us to give our attention to as a local church - that we would not be distracted but would keep our eyes on him and what he has called us to.

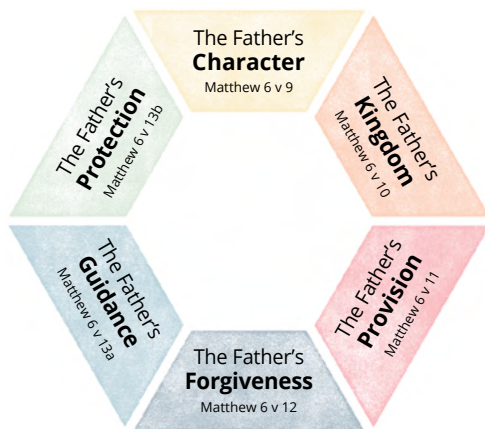
Day 6

Saturday 27 April
THE FATHER'S PROTECTION

But deliver us from the evil one.
(Matthew 6 v 13b)

Today, we think about the realities of good and evil in the world. The Bible is very clear – we have an enemy who wants to deceive and destroy and steal our joy.

But Jesus encourages us to pray, every day, that the Father will deliver us from the evil one. We can pray that we would be able to resist his lies, hold on to truth and know the protection that comes from our Father and King.



There is evil that we see in the world. But also, we are aware of the ways that evil can surface and impact our own lives, thoughts and choices.



As you pray today...

1. Look at a news website or paper. Sadly, it won't take long to see evidence of evil at work in our world. Choose one story to pray about from today's news - that light will overcome darkness.
2. Pray that God will protect you from the evil one - that God's truth would be louder than the enemies lies.

FINAL Thoughts

We hope it has been helpful to pray through the Lord's Prayer this week. But more than that, we hope it has given you a tool to help you pray beyond this week. You could use this model to fuel your prayers each and every day.

As you pray through this prayer using the hexagon model, watch and wait – anticipate that God will speak to you. You can use this to pray for any situation or concern that you are facing and to pray for other people and our church.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Remember who you are praying to – a good Father who invites us to draw near and pray, yet he is also holy and sat in all authority.

Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Remember our Father is also the King – we can ask for his rule and reign to come in any situation and for his will to be done.

Give us today our daily bread.

Remember that God cares about the things we or others need – we can pray and trust in his provision.

And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

Remember that our Father and King is willing and able to forgive us – and give us the grace to forgive others.

And lead us not into temptation.

Remember that our Father and King wants to guide us – into good spaces and away from temptation.

But deliver us from the evil one.

Remember that our God is victorious and is able to deliver us from all evil – we can pray, every day, for God to protect us from the evil one.

*We Exist To Love God,
Love People and See Lives
and Communities Transformed*



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