

# *Alone Time with God*

*Session 2*

V9 *"In this manner, therefore, pray: "manner" means 'pray like this then'."*

First, we open the door of prayer with **praise** and **thanksgiving**.

**Psalm 100:4, "Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name."**

- **Praise** is a response to the **greatness** of God and acknowledges *the attributes of God*.
- **Thanksgiving** is a response to the **goodness** of God and acknowledges *the deeds of God*.

### *"Our Father"*

It is always wise, before we pray, to spend time deliberately recalling who God is.

According to Jesus, my prayers should be addressed to the Father in care of Jesus. "Whatever you ask the Father in My name..." So, I pray to the Father in Jesus' name.

Jesus refers to God as "our Father" which emphasizes the personal relationship that God desires to have with me, His child.

The idea behind the word "Father" is one who protects and provides.

The word for 'Father' is 'Abba', meaning 'Papa'.

He is the all-knowing, ever present, full of power, eternal God.

How important, as we pray, to realize whom we are addressing. Consider the greatness of God, the power of God, and the fact that He is Abba Father. All prayer begins with the recognition that God is a loving Father.

**Psalm 8:1, "O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is Your name in all the earth, who have set Your glory above the heavens!"**

This may be a problem with some people; that God is a loving Father, because their earthly father may not have been very loving.

But, Jesus teaches that the nature of our Father is goodness. He said, *"If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more shall your Father who is in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him."* (Matt.7:11)

Everything about the Father is good. It is in His nature to do good to His children.

It's important to focus on the goodness of the Father.

**Psalm 34:8, ""Oh taste and see that the Lord is good."**

**Psalm 107:1, "Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good."**

It's important to consider, as we pray, the goodness of God.

The enemy of our soul lies to us about who God is.

This will bring us into the right perspective. We are speaking to our Father who is heaven. And with God, all things are possible.

Jesus taught that there is a loving Father who is eagerly waiting to meet with us.

Notice that Jesus does not teach us to pray to Mary or the saints, or to angels.

I have a heavenly Father, and He is the one I'm going to talk things through with.

How can I say, 'our Father?' John 1:12 states, *"But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name."*

I've been adopted into His family. He is now my Abba Father.

*"In Him we live and move and have our being...we are His offspring."*

(Acts 17:28).

And by Him we cry. 'Abba, Father'" *"For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of **adoption** by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."*(Romans 8:15)

You've given me life. You have given me eternal life. How could I not but give You my life!

These are great Scriptures to pray:

Psalm 5:1-3, *"Give ear to my words, O Lord, consider my meditation. Give heed to the voice of my cry, my king and my God, for to You I will pray. My voice You shall hear in the morning, O Lord; In the morning I will direct it to You. And I will look up."*

Psalm 63:1-8, *"O God, You are my God; early will I seek You; my soul thirsts for You; my flesh longs for You in a dry and thirsty land where there is no water."*

*"which art in heaven"* - **Focuses on how far above man God dwells.** It takes the focus off of my problems, and puts my focus on He who is able.

Also, it focuses my attention on some of God's attributes:

Prayer moves us from the earthly to the heavenly.

Praise acknowledges the attributes of God.

- **Omnipresence – God is everywhere.**

**There is no place in the universe where God does not dwell.** Prayer access to God is any place and for any person.

Jeremiah 23:23-24 *"Am I a God near at hand, says the Lord, and not a God afar off? Can anyone hide himself in secret places, so I shall not see him? Says the Lord; do I not fill heaven and earth? Says the Lord."*

Prov. 15:3 *"The eyes of the Lord are in every place..."*

- **He is eternal in nature.** Not only is God everywhere, but He is there all of the time. He is eternal.

**He has no beginning and no end. He has always been.**

Psalm 90:1-2 *"Lord You have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever You had formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God."*

Too often we only pray with a view of here and now. When we pray, we need to realize we are entering into the realm of the eternal.

- **God is omniscient. He knows everything.** Because God is everywhere, all the time, it is then possible to understand that He knows everything.  
This attribute of God makes prayer a wonderful blessing.  
He not only knows every detail of our lives, but He knows the deep hurts and needs we have. (Psalm 139:1-18)
- **God is omnipotent – all powerful. El Shaddai is God Almighty – the God who is able.**  
God not only knows everything all the time, and is in every place all the time, but He also is all-powerful.  
*He is the Lord strong and mighty* (Psalm 24:8). *Power belongs to Him* (Psalm 62:11). *Great is our Lord, and abundant in strength* (Psalm 147:5).  
Power and authority belong to God! There is nothing too difficult for God. This should remind us that He can do whatever He sees fit to do. He is able.  
*“Ah Lord God! Behold, Thou hast made the heavens and the earth by Thy great power and by Thy outstretched arm! Nothing is too difficult for Thee.”* (Jeremiah 32:17).
- **Immutability – God is unchanging.**  
That is His nature. He is unchangeably holy and righteous and just. God Himself declared, **“For I, the Lord, do not change”** (Malachi 3:6)  
*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today, yes and forever.* (Hebrews 12:7-8)  
Therefore the Word of God is unchanging. *“Forever O Lord, Thy Word is settled in Heaven.”* (Psalm 119:89)

Since God is immutable we can always count on Him.

### *“Hallowed be Thy name.”*

The name of God is holy, because He is holy.

By the “name” of God is meant all those attributes through which he is revealed to us – His power, goodness, wisdom, holiness, justice, mercy, and truth. By stating God’s name that it be “hallowed,” we mean that, “May His name be made known and glorified.”

So, when we say to God, “Hallowed be Thy name,” we are saying “We praise you for Your nature.”

We thank You that You are so different than we are.

We thank You that You are so willing to bring us up to Your level.

We thank You that You are sinless.

We thank You that You are pure.

We thank You that You are holy.

Thank you Father that You are gracious as You are.

Thank you that You are as patient as You are.

Thank you that You are as merciful as You are.

Thank you that You are as forgiving as You are.

Thank you that You are as good as You are. Thank You for Your goodness.

“Hallowed” means ‘treated as holy’. We are to treat God as Who He is. He is holy.

When we pray, we need to focus on God. We should acknowledge His *goodness*, His *greatness*, and His *purity*, with *praise and thanksgiving*.

## Everything about the Father is good!

To hallow something is to make it holy or to set it apart to be exalted as being worthy of absolute devotion. To hallow the name of God is to regard Him with complete devotion and loving admiration. God's name is of the utmost importance.

*Nehemiah 9:5-6 "Stand up and bless the Lord your God, forever and ever! Blessed be Your glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise! You alone are the Lord; You made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and everything on it, the seas and all that is in them, and You preserve them all. The host of heaven worships You. You are the Lord God."*

Therefore, we ought to give God's name a position of grave significance in our minds and hearts. We should never take His name lightly (Lev.22:32), but always rejoice in it and think deeply upon its true meaning.

The name of God is holy because He is holy.

Names had a special meaning to the ancient Hebrew people. Many times the name of a person represented the character of that person.

*Isaiah 57:15, "For thus says the High and Lofty One who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place..."*

*Isaiah 6:3, "And one cried to another and said: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!"*

So, we open the doors of prayer with praise and thanksgiving.

## *V10 "Thy kingdom come"*

We should pray for the advancement of God's cause, putting His interests first.

We are agreeing with Jesus, that God's kingdom would be established in the hearts of *men and women, boys and girls*, throughout the world.

- **This is intercessory prayer.** *This is praying for others.*

God loves the world, and desires that the world through Jesus would be saved.

*"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved."* (John 3:16-17)

He wants to establish His rule in the hearts of people.

When we pray for His kingdom to come, we are essentially praying for two things:

**One:** We are praying **for the rule of God in the hearts** of men and women, boys and girls; that they would come to know the rule of Jesus in their lives.

**Two:** We are praying for **the return of Christ.**

## *“Thy will be done”*

What did Jesus mean when He said, “Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven”? Again, He is praying for God to rule in the hearts of *men and women, boys and girls*.

There are only two kinds of people:

- Those who are in harmony with God’s purposes saying, ‘Thy will be done,’
- Those who are living for themselves saying, ‘My will be done.’

We should pray for the advancement of God’s cause, to be established in the hearts of *men and women, boys and girls*.

**This is a choice we all make.** “Today, again, I surrender my life to You. I ask that You would rule over my life.”

In this petition we acknowledge that “God, You know what is best and I surrender my will to You. I ask that Your will would be done in and through my life.”

I pray, “Lord, may my trust be in You alone.

I want to be **filled** with Your Spirit

I want to **sow** to Your Spirit

I want to **reap** of Your Spirit

I want to **walk** in Your Spirit

I want to be **led** by Your Spirit

I want to **live** in Your Spirit

I want to be **controlled** by Your Spirit

I want to have the **fruit** of Your Spirit

I present my body **as a temple** that Your Holy Spirit might indwell me.

In Jesus’ name”

So, I conclude by offering to Him my heart, and **surrendering this day to Him**, and giving him all honor and praise, and rejoicing that He is King of kings, and Lord of lords.

*“...on earth as it is in heaven.”*