



Jesus' Teaching on Prayer
Following Jesus in Prayer (Part-8)
Sunday August 06, 2023

As we journey through this study on "Following Jesus in Prayer", we will reflect on each of these 8 aspects of prayer. We trust that there will be much learning and growth in each of our personal prayer lives:

- 1) *Praying in secret*
- 2) *A pattern for personal prayer*
- 3) *Believing prayer*
- 4) *Persistent prayer*
- 5) *Prayer of submission and surrender*
- 6) *Intercessory prayer*
- 7) *Jesus' teaching on prayer*
- 8) *His present ministry – our great High Priest*

We have covered several aspects of prayer as observed in the life, teaching and ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ. In this lesson we cover additional passages on prayer, from the teaching of our Lord Jesus.

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO MISTREAT YOU

Matthew 5:43-48

43 "You have heard that it was said, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR and hate your enemy.'

44 But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and **pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,**

45 that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

46 For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?

47 And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so?

48 Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

When people wrong us, ill-treat us, persecute us, we must love, bless, do good and even pray for them. Loving them, blessing them, doing good to them, and praying for them, even when they do us wrong, is an expression of who we are to them. It expresses that we are sons of our Father in heaven, and we are behaving aligned to our heavenly Father.



Think about situations where this would be applicable – in family relationships, within the church community, with those at the workplace, elsewhere, etc. One of our responses includes praying for those who hurt and mistreat us. Go before God and pray for them.

The Lord Jesus set us the greatest example of this, when on the Cross, in the midst of all the agony and pain, He prayed for those who crucified Him.

Luke 23:34

Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do." And they divided His garments and cast lots.

Sometimes the persecution may not be physical harm, but may come in the form of maligning, spreading of false information, accusations, and what we would call 'character assassination'. What should our response be in such situations? Pray for your detractors.

DON'T USE PRAYER AS A PRETENSE OF SPIRITUALITY

Matthew 6:5-7

5 "And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.

6 But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

7 And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words.

Matthew 23:14

Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you devour widows' houses, and for a pretense make long prayers. Therefore you will receive greater condemnation.

We must all develop a lifestyle of prayer. We must also learn to pray in agreement, together in times of collective prayer. But our motives must remain clean. We must not engage in public prayer for recognition. We must do this as some mark of spirituality. And when we pray we must do so sincerely, and meaningfully, avoiding empty,



thoughtless, repetitions of prayers, as though they were some formula that need to be recited.

PRAY AND BLESS

Matthew 19:13-15

13 Then little children were brought to Him that He might **put His hands on them and pray**, but the disciples rebuked them.

14 But Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

15 And **He laid His hands on them** and departed from there.

The Lord Jesus took time to lay hands, pray and bless the little children. Take time to pray for and minister to those who will not be able to give you anything back in return. Sometimes, we make it a point to pray for important people, which is fine. But don't forget to take time to pray and bless those who may not be able to give anything back to you.

THE HOUSE OF GOD - A PLACE OF PRAYER, HEALING AND PRAISE

Matthew 21:12-17

12 Then Jesus went into the temple of God and drove out all those who bought and sold in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves.

13 And He said to them, "It is written, 'MY HOUSE SHALL BE CALLED A HOUSE OF PRAYER,' but you have made it a 'DEN OF THIEVES.'"

14 Then the blind and the lame came to Him in the temple, and He healed them.

15 But when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that He did, and the children crying out in the temple and saying, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant

16 and said to Him, "Do You hear what these are saying?" And Jesus said to them, "Yes. Have you never read, 'OUT OF THE MOUTH OF BABES AND NURSING INFANTS YOU HAVE PERFECTED PRAISE'?"

17 Then He left them and went out of the city to Bethany, and He lodged there.

The House of God is not a place for merchandising or making money, which is what the money changers and animal sellers were interested in.

The House of God is not a place for dead religion and politics, which is all the chief priests, scribes, and pharisees were interested in.



The Lord Jesus made it very clear through what He said and did that the House of God is a place for prayer, healing, and praise. This is something we also need to carefully follow and guard in the local church.

COME WITH HUMILITY BEFORE GOD IN PRAYER

Luke 18:9-14

9 Also He spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:

10 "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector.

12 I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.'

13 And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!'

14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

This simple parable illustrates how we approach our heavenly Father. As New Testament believers, we understand our identity in Jesus. We come before our heavenly Father with boldness and confidence, but also in utter dependence on His grace and mercy. We have not been justified by works we have done, but entirely through the blood of Jesus Christ. So we come humbly before God, thankful for His mercy and grace.

PRAY TO STAY IN READINESS FOR THE COMING OF THE LORD

Mark 13:32-37

32 "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

33 Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is.

34 It is like a man going to a far country, who left his house and gave authority to his servants, and to each his work, and commanded the doorkeeper to watch.

35 Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming—in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning—

36 lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping.

37 And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!"

Luke 21:34-36



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34 "But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly.

35 For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth.

36 Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man."

In relation to the End Times and His return, the Lord Jesus taught us to watch (be awake, alert, on the lookout) and to pray. We must continue doing the work assigned to us diligently. We must not get caught up in wasteful living or with the cares of this life. So, maintaining our life of prayer is important in us living with readiness for the coming of the Lord.

SUMMARY

Pray for those who mistreat you.

Don't use prayer as a pretense of spirituality.

Pray and bless.

The House of God - a place of prayer, healing, and praise.

Come with humility before God in prayer.

Pray to stay in readiness for the coming of the Lord.

GOSPEL AND SALVATION CALL

SUPERNATURAL MINISTRY TIME

Minister as the Spirit leads



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This is a simple guide for use in Life Group discussions. Our objective is to focus on the application of the Sunday sermon - how each one is becoming a doer of the Word and building their life on God's Holy Word. The Life Group meeting would normally last for 2 hours. Each Life Group would have up to 12-15 people.

Preparation

To prepare for the Life Group meeting, you can listen to the Sermon Key Points (sermon summary in five minutes) or the full-length Sunday sermon. You can also review the Sunday Sermon notes. All these are available in the "All Peoples Church Bangalore" mobile App or online at our [sermons page](#). Pray for the Life Group meeting and invite the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Welcome

The Life Group meeting may commence with a time of prayer, worship, and a fun activity.

LISTEN to God's Word

Read the following Scripture references: *Matthew 5:43-48; Matthew 6:5-7; Matthew 21:12-17; Matthew 23:14*

INVESTIGATE God's Word Together

Please discuss a few of these together, giving time for people to share their insights. We encourage each one individually to make notes of their personal learning during the Group discussion.

1, *Discuss some practical applications of Jesus teaching to pray for those who mistreat you (Matthew 5:43-48)*

2, *How can we make sure that we do not use prayer as a pretense of spirituality, as instructed by Jesus (Matthew 6:5-7; Matthew 23:14)*



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3, The House of God is a place of prayer, healing, and praise (Matthew 21:12-17). During Jesus' time the money-changers and animal sellers were using it for merchandising. The religious leaders were using it to promote their dead religion and for political gains. The Lord Jesus called for things to be "reset" to their original purpose. How can we apply this to our context today and ensure that the House of God (the local church) maintains its focus as Jesus intended?

If time permits, each one can take a few (3 minutes max) to share one or two key learning and how they see themselves applying it into their specific life situations. Encourage each one to participate and share.

FELLOWSHIP by sharing your life and spiritual journey

Each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share anything from their walk with God, something God has been teaching them, a testimony of answered prayer or a specific challenge that they would like prayer for. Encourage each one to participate and share.

ENCOURAGE each other by praying and ministering to one another

Get into small groups of two or three and take turns to thank God and pray for each other in the light of what was learnt today. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow bringing healing, releasing miracles, prophecy, etc.

Regroup and pray together for:

- 1, families to be protected and strengthened*
- 2, a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on us as a church and through us to bless many others in our city and nation. Nothing but a mighty work of God's Spirit can change our city and nation.*
- 3, for the BUILD TO IMPACT project - for God's hand to guide us through the land search and acquisition process, and for finances to be more than enough to get this project done.*

Close by thanking God together.



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USEFUL RESOURCES

Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

YOUTUBE: <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

WEBSITE: <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

CHURCH: <https://apcwo.org>

FREE SERMONS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

FREE BOOKS: <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

DAILY DEVOTIONALS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

JESUS CHRIST: <https://examiningjesus.com>

BIBLE COLLEGE: <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

E-LEARNING: <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

WEEKEND SCHOOLS: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools>

COUNSELING: <https://chrysalislife.org>

MUSIC: <https://apcmusic.org>

MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP: <https://pamfi.org>

CHURCH APP: <https://apcwo.org/app>

CHURCHES: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches>

WORLD MISSIONS: <https://apcworldmissions.org>

SERMON OUTLINE

Prayer is an opportunity for us to partner with God to see His Kingdom come and His will be established here on earth. In this sermon series “Following Jesus in Prayer”, we examine the life, the practices, and teachings of Jesus in 8 important aspects of prayer: 1) Praying in secret, 2) A pattern for personal prayer, 3) Believing prayer, 4) Persistent prayer, 5) Prayer of submission and surrender, 6) Intercessory prayer, 7) Jesus’ teaching on prayer, 8) His present ministry – our great High Priest. Expect your prayer life to be enriched and strengthened as we learn to develop our prayer lives based on prayer life of Jesus Himself.

In Part-8 of this sermon series, in “Jesus’ Teaching On Prayer” we cover some of the Scripture texts that Jesus shared on prayer, texts we have not covered so far:

Pray for those who mistreat you.

Don’t use prayer as a pretense of spirituality.

Pray and bless.

The House of God - a place of prayer, healing, and praise.

Come with humility before God in prayer.

Pray to stay in readiness for the coming of the Lord.



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KEYWORDS

prayer, intercession, intercessory prayer, Jesus our intercessor, pray like Jesus, the prayer life of Jesus, sermon, sermons, sermon notes, sermon outline, free sermon notes, free sermon outlines, Bible study resources

REFERENCES/CITATIONS

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Thayer's Greek Definitions. Published in 1886, 1889; public domain.

Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries, Strong's Exhaustive Concordance by James Strong, S.T.D., LL.D. Published in 1890; public domain.

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Mounce Concise Greek-English Dictionary. Edited by William D. Mounce with Rick D. Bennett, Jr. (1993)

Word Pictures in the New Testament. Archibald Thomas Robertson. Published in 1930-1933; public domain.

Word Studies in the New Testament. Marvin R. Vincent, D.D. (1886)