

A MODEL FOR PRAYING, PART 1
(Matthew 6:9-15)

- I. God's PURPOSE (Matt. 6:9a)
 - A. Revealed in some things He DOES NOT address
 - 1. No mention of a PLACE for prayer
 - 2. No setting of a TIME for prayer
 - 3. No description of a POSTURE or ATTIRE for prayer
 - B. Intended as a TEMPLATE for our OWN prayers
 - C. Text is both CONCISE and PROFOUND
 - D. Shows that prayer must not be MAN-CENTERED
 - 1. Not focused on our NEEDS
 - 2. Not laying CLAIM to God's PROMISES
 - 3. Not making DEMANDS of God
 - E. Demonstrates that prayer must be GOD-CENTERED
 - 1. Must acknowledge God's SOVEREIGNTY
 - 2. Seeks to DISPLAY God's GLORY
 - 3. Prompts our SUBMISSION to God's WILL

II. God's PATERNITY (Matt. 6:9b)

- A. Not the UNIVERSAL fatherhood of God as CREATOR (Mal. 2:10; Acts 17:28)
- B. But the SPIRITUAL fatherhood of God through REDEMPTION (John 1:12-13)
 - 1. Means the end of FEAR
 - 2. Settles UNCERTAINTIES and gives HOPE
 - 3. Resolves LONELINESS
 - 4. Should settle the matter of SELFISHNESS
 - 5. Settles the matter of RESOURCES
 - 6. Should settle the matter of OBEDIENCE

III. God's PRIORITY (Matt. 6:9c)

- A. His NAME includes recognizing His CHARACTER
- B. Demands REVERENCE, for He alone is HOLY
 - 1. Begins by acknowledging He EXISTS
 - 2. Includes understanding TRUTH about Him
 - 3. Demands conformity to His WILL
 - 4. Will ATTRACT others by our commitment