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# First Baptist Dyersburg • Sermon Notes

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## Never Stop Praying!

Sunday, November 2, 2025  
Mike Hickman, Senior Pastor

<sup>16</sup> Always be joyful. <sup>17</sup> Never stop praying. <sup>18</sup> Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus. (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, NLT)

**Prayer is a \_\_\_\_\_ with God.**

- **It includes both speaking and \_\_\_\_\_.**
- **It is a \_\_\_\_\_, not a \_\_\_\_\_.**
- **Its purpose is to bring \_\_\_\_\_ to God, and to ask for Him to help me accomplish His \_\_\_\_\_ on earth.**

<sup>5</sup> "When you pray, don't be like the hypocrites who love to pray publicly on street corners and in the synagogues where everyone can see them. I tell you the truth, that is all the reward they will ever get. <sup>6</sup> But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you.

<sup>7</sup> "When you pray, don't babble on and on as the Gentiles do. They think their prayers are answered merely by repeating their words again and again. <sup>8</sup> Don't be like them, for your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him! <sup>9</sup> Pray like this:

Our Father in heaven,  
may your name be kept holy.

<sup>10</sup> May your Kingdom come soon.

May your will be done on earth,  
as it is in heaven.

<sup>11</sup> Give us today the food we need,

<sup>12</sup> and forgive us our sins,  
as we have forgiven those who sin against us.

<sup>13</sup> And don't let us yield to temptation,  
but rescue us from the evil one.

<sup>14</sup> "If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. <sup>15</sup> But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.

<sup>16</sup> “And when you fast, don’t make it obvious, as the hypocrites do, for they try to look miserable and disheveled so people will admire them for their fasting. I tell you the truth, that is the only reward they will ever get. <sup>17</sup> But when you fast, comb your hair and wash your face. <sup>18</sup> Then no one will notice that you are fasting, except your Father, who knows what you do in private. And your Father, who sees everything, will reward you. (Matthew 6:5-18, NLT)

### **Lessons I can learn from Jesus’ teaching on prayer:**

- 1. Most of my prayers should be \_\_\_\_\_ conversations just between the Father and me. (v. 5-6)**
- 2. I will not use the same word phrases over and over again. Instead, I will engage in a \_\_\_\_\_ conversation with the Father. (v. 7-8)**
- 3. I will offer my \_\_\_\_\_ to the Father. (v. 9)**
  - Adoration – praising God for \_\_\_\_\_ He is.**
  - Thanksgiving – praising God for \_\_\_\_\_ He has done.**
  - I will also honor God with my every day \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ so that my life \_\_\_\_\_ His holiness to others.**
- 4. I will ask the Father to align my \_\_\_\_\_ to the work He is doing here on earth and throughout His Kingdom, even as He is already doing in heaven. (v. 10)**

Then Jesus left them a second time and prayed, “My Father! If this cup cannot be taken away unless I drink it, your will be done.” (Matthew 26:42, NLT)

**5. I will ask for God's \_\_\_\_\_ . (v. 11)**

<sup>7</sup> “Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. <sup>8</sup> For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.

<sup>9</sup> “You parents—if your children ask for a loaf of bread, do you give them a stone instead? <sup>10</sup> Or if they ask for a fish, do you give them a snake? Of course not! <sup>11</sup> So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask him. (Matthew 7:7-11, NLT)

**6. I will ask for God's \_\_\_\_\_ for my sins,  
and ask Him to help me \_\_\_\_\_ those who  
sin against me. (v. 12, and v. 14-15)**

<sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9, ESV)

<sup>21</sup> Then Peter came to him and asked, “Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?”

<sup>22</sup> “No, not seven times,” Jesus replied, “but seventy times seven! (Matthew 18:21-22, NLT)

**7. I will ask for God's \_\_\_\_\_ when I  
face temptation. (v. 13)**

<sup>13</sup> And remember, when you are being tempted, do not say, “God is tempting me.” God is never tempted to do wrong, and he never tempts anyone else. <sup>14</sup> Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away. <sup>15</sup> These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death. (James 1:13-15, NLT)

**8. I will sometimes choose to fast from \_\_\_\_\_  
to draw closer to the Father as I pray. (v. 16-18)**

<sup>15</sup> Jesus replied, “Do wedding guests mourn while celebrating with the groom? Of course not. But someday the groom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast. (Matthew 9:15, NLT)