

*"After this manner therefore pray ye: '**Our Father** which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen." **Matthew 6:9-13 KJV***



This passage is commonly called, "The Lord's Prayer," but it is not. It is the "Model for Prayer." Our Lord's Prayer is found in John chapter 17. Here, His disciples had just asked Him, "*Lord, teach us to pray.*" So He did. The KING taught them Court etiquette. If His Majesty deems us worthy of instruction, we should pay heed. We approach His Throne with praise and adoration on our lips; "*Hallowed be thy name*"; praise because He deserves to be praised and we are commanded to do so. "*Praise ye the Lord.*" Do you like to be complimented? So does God! Adoration for our Heavenly Father who loved us first, and purchased our redemption with the most precious thing of all, His Life. "*The Son of man (Jesus) came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many.*" We acknowledge His sovereignty, and submit ourselves to His control, because He knows all things past, present, and future including the thoughts and intents of every heart! We petition Him for the needs of the day. "*Give us this day our daily bread.*" Since He uses the word "us," it is obvious that we should be ever mindful of others, and always, like the example set by our Saviour, put other's needs ahead of our own. Presenting petitions to His Majesty reminds us of His Love and Provision, and of our many shortcomings. His goodness brings us to the point of repentance. "*And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.*" Confess your sins, remembering to first forgive those who have wronged you. Forgiveness is a gift first granted to yourself and then, upon request, to those who offend you. God doesn't forgive everyone arbitrarily. It is only given to "*whosoever shall call.*" It simply waits to be given. It was allocated at Calvary to "*whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord.*" To carry a grudge is sinful, and sin must be cleansed to enjoy our Father's fellowship. You can't walk in the light, obey God, and in darkness, obey sin, at the same time. "*No man can serve two masters.*" We plead His protection from that which would tempt us from His side. "*Lead us not into temptation.*" We end by remembering our adoration and praise for His Grace, The KING. "*Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.*" A simple lesson in kingdom etiquette. We should learn proper conduct to approach Eternity's Sovereign.

Oh Abba dearest! Father mine!  
Eternal KING and Lord of time,  
I trust your love and Grace Divine;  
'Twill bring me Home to rest sublime! -CGP

Think of it! We have all the responsibilities and privileges of being the KING'S children. We can enter His presence without fear any time we need Him. He dotes on His children, and ever desires to grant their petitions. He will not tolerate disobedience and will lovingly administer the exact discipline needed for each child. Creation belongs to Father. He loves to bless His offspring with His beneficence. He is able to provide "*abundantly more than they could ask or think.*" He'll always provide their needs.

*"Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." Hebrews 4:16 KJV*