

## Lord Teach Us to Pray (Part 7)

### Getting Right to Pray, so We Can Pray Right Prayers (Mt. 6:12)

**Introduction:** Over the last several weeks we have been taking a deep dive into Jesus teaching His disciples a model for all praying. As we continue to move through the verses of *this “model for prayer,”* hopefully we are learning how to pray more authentic and relevant prayers. We have already covered a lot of ground in this model prayer, moving through the areas of praise, worship, kingdom priorities, God’s will, our hope, and trust in our Father’s loving care. But in this message, we will get a little close to the place where all live. I wonder, what is the first thing that comes to mind when you hear these words? When we read through vv.12-15 – what do you think is the message? Why do you think Jesus put this part of our prayers here instead of first? (Because the first portion of our prayer model is focusing us in on who we are talking to and depending upon, which is “our Father in heaven...”) So, at this portion Jesus is focused on the subject of our relationship with the Father, and He is addressing the things we must address that can hinder our fellowship with our Father. In this portion of our study, we are going to have to deal with the matter of our sins because, our sin is a great disrupter to our fellowship with our holy Father and others in the family of God. With that in mind, let’s start with a hard look at “sin.”

**I. The effects of sin** – We have already said that sin is a great disrupter, but it is far more than that.

**A. We know the future effect of sin on the unsaved** - (Rom. 6:23; Rev. 20:11-15)... *is the eternal separation from a holy God and damnation...*

1. Sin makes men guilty and brings God’s judgement. (1 Jn. 3:4; Rom. 3:19; 6:23a)
2. All forgiveness of sin is offered by God on the grounds of Christ’s death (1 Pe. 2:24; 1 Jn. 2:2; 2 Cor. 5:21; Rom. 6:23b; Jer. 31:34; Mich.7:18-19; Ps. 103:12)
3. To receive God’s forgiveness of our sin, (1 Jn. 1:9)
4. All that call upon the Lord shall be saved from sins eternal penalty. (Rom. 10:13) But what if we sin after that (and we do)?

**B. What is the present effect of sin on the saint?** While we have been saved from sins penalty through God’s grace and Jesus finished work on the cross, (Rom. 6:23; 8:1)

1. We still continue to sin (1 Jn. 1:8) and that can lead to great disruptions in our lives and between us and our Father...
  - a. When our sin is not dealt with – we have some personal assurances to beware of (Job. 4:8; Gal 6:7)
  - b. For David, (Ps. 32:3-5) For some, sin leads to physical and or mental sickness. (Micah 6:13; Mt. 9:2-5; 1 Cor. 11:30) The Apostle Paul told the Corinthians (*1 Cor 11:30-31*) For some, sin will cause them to depart from their faith and live in falsehood (1 Tim. 4:1-2) For all of us, undealt with sin in our lives will *cause a disruption of fellowship between us and God.* (Isa 59: 1-2a) For all of us, sin hinders our prayer connection with God: (Isa.59: 2b)

When sin is not dealt with it can affect future generations Ex 20:5; 34:7 (see also Ezek 18:1-4) I want us to see this morning that when it comes to our prayer lives and dealing with the problem of sin, this is an important issue!

## II. The description of sin: “*Because we all have sinned... (Rom.6:23)*”

**A. Consider the proper definition of sin:**

1. **Hamartia** – (Rom. 3:23 Mt. 5:48) – the idea of shooting and arrow at a target and falling short of hitting it.
2. **Parabasis** – (Cf. Mt.6:12 with Lk 11:4) “which means to cross the line.” (Ecc 12:13) When we disobey God’s commands – We cross a line (a line established by God in either word, thought or deed) (*Rev. 20:11,12*)
3. **Anomia** – the idea of this word is “lawlessness” (Js. 2:10) *Note the progression of these words:*
4. **Paraptoma** – (Mt. 6:14,15) refers to our slipping or falling down – (these are moments of passion, lust, loss of self-control) when we are swept away.
5. **Opheilema** – (Mt. 12:6) – debt – or failure to pay what is due. The idea is, sin is debt we cannot pay.

**B. Consider the problem of disruption by sin:** Sin is a total disruption to every relationship we have and especially our relationship with God.

Sin waits to attack ever baby born (Ps. 58:3; Rom. 5:12). Sin is what makes man susceptible sickness, disease, and death. Sin is the culprit behind every broken disrupted home, friendship, argument, pain, sorrow, suffering, and anxiety. Scripture calls (Joshh. 7:13) and compares it to the venom of a snake or the stench of death... from a human standpoint, sin (Jer. 13:23) is incurable. Sin dominates the mind of man (Rom. 1:21). Sin dominates the will of man (Jer. 44:15-17). Sin dominates the emotions of man (Jn. 3:19-21) Sin brings men under Satan’s control (Eph. 2:2). Sin makes men objects of God’s wrath (Eph.2:3) Sin subjects’ man to the miseries of life (Jb. 5:7). Sin is a deep problem for every man – the only need we have deeper than our need to deal with our sin – is our need for God, but we can’t have that without dealing with our sin! Jesus said when we pray, we must deal with our sin problem. So how do we do this?

**III. Dealing with sin:** Jesus says to deal with our sin, we must bring them to the Father.

**1. God, has graciously dealt with our sin by offering us two aspects of forgiveness of our debt** (first *judicial* and then as children of God, *parental*)

- a. Judicial forgiveness of our sin is offered for us on the grounds of Christ’s death – (Rom. 5:8; 6:23b)
- b. Through Jesus great sacrifice... (Jn. 1:29; 3:13-17; 1 Pe. 2:24 ;1 Jn. 2:2; Isa.53:6; Isa. 43:25; Jer. 31:34; 2 Cor. 5:21) But wait... when does all this take place?
- c. When does all this forgiveness and justification happen? The moment we profess by faith, believing in and calling upon Christ to be our Lord and Savior. (Rom. 10:10-13; 1 Cor. 15:3-4)

**2. Because we still sin daily** – by commission and omission, and we are in search of the second aspect of forgiveness – parental forgiveness.

**Parental forgiveness restores my disrupted fellowship** and puts me in a position to experience the joy of my salvation, and presence and power of God in the family of God in my everyday life. (Mt. 6:14,15)