

Brandon Phillips / General

The King and His Glory / Prayer / Matthew 6:9–13

In Matt 6:9-13, Jesus teaches His disciples the proper, God-honoring, and worshipful way to pray.

Pre-sermon Comments

- **Equip the saints** -

[1 Thessalonians 1:8](#) (LSB) ⁸ For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith toward God has gone forth, so that we have no need to say anything.

[Matthew 28:19–20](#) (LSB) ¹⁹ “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to keep all that I commanded you; and behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

Discussion Questions

Exalting God: The sermon emphasizes exalting God in everything we do. What are some practical ways you can exalt God in your daily life? How does this impact your interactions with others?

Expositing Scripture: Why is it important to know God through His inerrant Word? How has regular exposure to Scripture helped you better live out your faith?

Equipping the Saints: In what ways has the Word of God brought healing or wholeness to areas of brokenness in your life? How does being equipped through God’s Word prepare you to serve others?

Evangelizing the Lost: What does evangelism look like in your personal life? How can you balance sharing the Gospel boldly while trusting God with the results?

Faith Sounding Forth: [1 Thessalonians 1:8](#) speaks of the faith of believers "sounding forth" to others. How has God used your faith as a testimony to those around you?

Making Disciples: [Matthew 28:19-20](#) commands us to go and make disciples. How are you currently participating in disciple-making? What challenges have you faced in this process, and how might you overcome them?

Prayer and Dependence on God: The sermon reflects on how the Disciples' Prayer ([Matthew 6:9-13](#)) teaches us to trust in God's provision and guidance. How has this prayer shaped your understanding of God's care for your needs and deliverance from evil?

Temptation and Deliverance: As we approach the final lines of the Lord's Prayer ([Matthew 6:13](#)), how do you understand the nature of temptation in your life? In what ways can you seek God's deliverance from evil in your daily walk?

Sermon Text

[Matthew 6:9-13](#) (LSB) ⁹ "Pray, then, in this way: 'Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. ¹⁰ 'Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. ¹¹ 'Give us this day our daily bread. ¹² 'And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. ¹³ 'And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. [For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.']

Introduction

It is hard for the good to suspect evil as it is hard for the bad to suspect good. ~
M. Tullius Cicero

Kofi Annan: “I’m still struggling with evil. I still don’t understand how there can be so much evil.... You look at the impact; you see young people who have no hope.”

Koffi Annan: “Milosevic will talk about the days when he was a banker here in New York City. He speaks English, sounds like a rational, reasonable person, and yet he is capable of all sorts of acts. How do they do it? How does someone behave like such a normal human being and suddenly turn so evil?”

Discussion Questions:

Pastor Brandon references several notorious criminals like John Wayne Gacy and Ted Bundy, who appeared to be ordinary people but committed horrific acts. Why do you think such evil can be hidden beneath a seemingly normal exterior?

The speaker leaves us with the challenge of understanding why evil exists. How has this conversation impacted your view of God’s sovereignty in a world where evil is so prevalent?

The sermon raises the classic theological question: If God is good, why does He allow evil to exist? How would you respond to this question?

Review

Pray, then, in this way

[Matthew 6:9](#) (LSB) ⁹ “Pray, then, in this way: ‘Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.

Passage Outline

- **God’s Power and Sovereignty** ([Matt 6:9-10](#))
- **God’s Provision and Security** ([Matt 6:11-13](#))

We are to pray recognizing Our Father's Position ([Matt 6:9](#))

We are to pray recognizing Our Father's Purview ([Matt 6:10](#))

We are to pray recognizing Our Father's Power ([Matt 6:10](#))

Sermon Outline

We must pray trusting in God's Provision and Security ([Matt 6:11-13](#))

- We are to pray requesting Our Father's Provision ([Matt 6:11](#)) [review]
- We are to pray requesting Our Father's Pardon ([Matt 6:12](#)) [review]
- We are to pray requesting Our Father's Protection ([Matt 6:13](#)) [today]

We must pray trusting in God's Provision and Security ([Matt 6:11-13](#))

We are to pray requesting Our Father's Provision ([Matt 6:11](#))

[Matthew 6:11](#) (LSB) ¹¹ 'Give us this day our daily bread.

[Psalm 145:15-16](#) (LSB) ¹⁵ The eyes of all wait on You, And You give them their food in due time. ¹⁶ You open Your hand And satisfy the desire of every living thing.

We are to pray requesting Our Father's Pardon ([Matt 6:12](#))

[Matthew 6:12](#) (LSB) ¹² 'And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

John MacArthur: Sin that is not confessed cannot be forgiven!

Two Ditches!

[1 John 1:9](#) (LSB) ⁹ If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

[Matthew 6:12](#) (LSB) ¹² 'And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

[Ephesians 1:7](#) (LSB) 7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our transgressions, according to the riches of His grace

[Psalm 139:23-24](#) (LSB) 23 Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me and know my anxious thoughts; 24 And see if there be any hurtful way in me, And lead me in the everlasting way.

Discussion Questions:

Understanding the Lord's Prayer: Why do you think Jesus includes a petition for forgiveness in the model prayer, even though He knew believers would be forgiven of all sins at salvation?

Reconciling Forgiveness and Confession: How do you reconcile the truth that God has forgiven all our sins—past, present, and future—with John MacArthur's statement, "Sin that is not confessed cannot be forgiven"? How does this balance out when we think of sins we may not even be aware of?

The Danger of Habitual Sin: What does [1 John 1:9](#) teach us about the necessity of confession in the Christian life? Why is it dangerous to believe that all sins are covered and therefore confessing them isn't important?

Legalism and Confession: How do we avoid falling into legalism, thinking we must confess every little sin or risk condemnation? What role does trust in God's grace play in this?

Self-Examination in Confession: [Psalm 139:23-24](#) is quoted as a prayer for God to search our hearts. How can praying this help you grow in awareness of unconfessed sins? What practical steps can you take to "keep a short account with the Lord" regarding your sin?

Confession as Assurance: How does regular confession of sin provide assurance of salvation and foster a deeper relationship with God?

Unforgiveness and Its Effects: In what ways can withholding forgiveness from others "fertilize the root of bitterness" in your own heart? How does this hinder your relationship with both others and God?

The Fallen Leader: Reflect on the illustration of the respected preacher who sinned without confession. How does this example challenge the belief that simply being “justified by faith” means confession is unnecessary? What warning does this provide for your own spiritual life?

Living in Tension: How can you hold the tension between knowing your sins are fully forgiven and maintaining a posture of regular confession? How does this help you stay spiritually healthy and avoid the “two ditches” of complacency or legalism?

We must pray trusting in God’s Provision and Security ([Matt 6:11-13](#))

We are to pray requesting [Our Father’s Protection \(Matt 6:13\)](#)

[Matthew 6:13](#) (LSB) ¹³ ‘And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. [For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.]’

An interpretive problem in [Matt 6:13](#)

[James 1:13-15](#) (LSB) ¹³ Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God”; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone.

¹⁴ But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust.

¹⁵ Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin, and when sin is fully matured, it brings forth death.

Two Possible Connotations of the word “tempt”

[James 1:14](#) (LSB) ¹⁴ But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust.

[James 1:3](#) (LSB) ³ knowing that the testing of your faith brings about perseverance.

Lead us not into temptation?

[Job 1:12](#) (LSB) ¹² Then Yahweh said to Satan, “Behold, all that he has is in your hand, only do not send forth your hand toward him.” So Satan went out from the presence of Yahweh.

Lead us not into testing?

[1 Peter 1:6–7](#) (LSB) ⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷ so that the proof of your faith, *being* more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

[Genesis 22:16–17](#) (LSB) ¹⁶ and said, “By Myself I have sworn, declares Yahweh, because you have done this thing and have not spared your son, your only one, ¹⁷ indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of his enemies.

[James 5:4](#) (LSB) ⁴ Behold, the pay of the laborers who mowed your fields—that which has been withheld by you—cries out *against you*; and the outcries of those who did the harvesting have reached the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth.

[James 2:15–16](#) (LSB) ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and be filled,” and yet you do not give them what is necessary for *their* body, what use is that?

[James 2:17](#) (LSB) ¹⁷ Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead by itself.

[James 1:2–4](#) (LSB) ² Consider it all joy, my brothers, when you encounter various trials, ³ knowing that the testing of your faith brings about perseverance. ⁴ And let perseverance have *its* perfect work, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

[James 1:13](#) (LSB) ¹³ Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God”; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone.

[James 1:17](#) (LSB) ¹⁷ Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow.

[Genesis 50:20](#) (LSB) ²⁰ “As for you, you meant evil against me, *but* God meant it for good in order to do *what has happened on* this day, to keep many people alive.

If God has the power to use trials (and even temptations) for our good, why does Jesus instruct us to pray this way?

[Matthew 6:13](#) (LSB) ¹³ ‘And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. [For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.]’

John MacArthur: This prayer is the expression of the redeemed soul that so despises and fears sin that it wants to escape all prospects of falling into it, choosing to avoid rather than having to defeat temptation.

John MacArthur: We know that trials are a means for our growing spiritually, morally, and emotionally. Yet we have no desire to be in a place where even the possibility of sin is increased.

[Matthew 26:39](#) (LSB) ³⁹ And He went a little beyond *them*, and fell on His face and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will.”

Deliver us from the evil one

[Matthew 6:13](#) (LSB) ¹³ ‘And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. [For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.]’

[Matthew 6:13](#) (NASB95) ¹³ ‘And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.’

[Matthew 6:13](#) (ESV) ¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

[2 Thessalonians 3:3](#) (LSB) ³ But the Lord is faithful, who will strengthen and guard you from the evil one.

[Ephesians 6:16](#) (LSB) ¹⁶ In addition to all, having taken up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one,

[Matthew 5:37](#) (LSB) ³⁷ “But let your statement be, ‘Yes, yes’ or ‘No, no’; anything beyond these is of the evil one.

[Matthew 13:19](#) (LSB) ¹⁹ “When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is the one on whom seed was sown beside the road.

[1 John 5:18](#) (LSB) ¹⁸ We know that no one who has been born of God sins; but He who was begotten of God keeps him, and the evil one does not touch him.

[1 John 5:19](#) (LSB) ¹⁹ We know that we are of God, and that the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.

[Ephesians 2:2](#) (LSB) ² in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience,

[John 17:15](#) (LSB) ¹⁵ “I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one.

[John 10:29](#) (LSB) ²⁹ “My Father, who has given *them* to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch *them* out of the Father’s hand.

[James 4:7](#) (LSB) ⁷ Be subject therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

[Ephesians 6:11](#) (LSB) ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.

John MacArthur: In a cursed world where we are battered by evil all around us, we confess our inadequacy to deal with evil. We confess the weakness of our flesh and the absolute impotency of human resources to combat sin and

rescue us from its clutches. Above all we confess our need for the protection and deliverance of our loving heavenly Father

The final phrase?

[Matthew 6:13](#) (LSB) ¹³ ‘And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. [For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.]’

[Matthew 6:13](#) (NKJV) ¹³ And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Why does God allow evil?

“How is He not the Author of evil?”

God would never permit any evil if he could not bring good out of evil. ~ Thomas Watson

For, were it not good that evil things should also exist, the omnipotent God would almost certainly not allow evil to be, since beyond doubt it is just as easy for Him not to allow what He does not will, as for Him to do what He will. ~ Saint Augustine of Hippo

Discussion Questions:

What does the New Testament teach about temptation according to [Matthew 6:13](#) and [James 1:13-15](#)? How do we reconcile the apparent contradiction between these passages?

Follow-up: How does understanding the two connotations of the word "tempt" (temptation vs. testing) help clarify this issue?

In what ways are we tempted by our own desires, as described in [James 1:14-15](#)? How does this relate to the metaphor of a fish being lured by bait?

Follow-up: What practical steps can we take to avoid being "enticed" by sinful desires?

What is the difference between a trial or testing meant to strengthen faith and a temptation to sin? How does God use trials for our good according to [James 1:2-4](#) and [1 Peter 1:6-7](#)?

Why does Jesus instruct us to pray, "Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one"? How does this demonstrate a healthy distrust of our own ability to withstand temptation?

Follow-up: How can this prayer guard us against self-confidence in our spiritual strength?

In what ways does the story of Job help illustrate how God allows testing for His purposes while Satan uses the same situation to tempt? How should this understanding shape our prayers for protection?

How does the petition to be delivered from the evil one connect with the reality of spiritual warfare (see [Ephesians 6:16](#), [2 Thessalonians 3:3](#))? What role does prayer play in resisting the schemes of Satan?

How should we view times of testing in our own lives? What should our attitude be when faced with trials, and how can we trust in God's purposes through them, as Joseph did in [Genesis 50:20](#)?

Conclusion:

[Matthew 6:10](#) (LSB) ¹⁰ 'Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.

[Matthew 6:11](#) (LSB) ¹¹ 'Give us this day our daily bread.

[Matthew 6:12](#) (LSB) ¹² 'And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

[Matthew 6:13](#) (LSB) ¹³ 'And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. [For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.]

The Gospel

God

Created and owns everything

[Gen 1:1](#)—*In the beginning God created the Heavens and the Earth*

[Psalms 24:1](#)—*The earth is the Lord's, and all it contains, the world and those who dwell in it.*

Is Perfectly Holy

[1 John 1:5](#)—*This is the message we heard from Him and announce to you that God is light and in Him there is no darkness at all.*

[Matt 5:48](#)—*Therefore you are to be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect.*

Requires perfect obedience to His Law

[James 2:10](#)—*for whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all.*

Man

Has broken God's law

[Rom 3:10,23](#)—*there is none righteous, not even one...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God*

Will pay the eternal penalty for his sin

[Rom. 6:23](#)—*For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord*

Cannot save himself by his good works

[Titus 3:5](#)—*He saved us not based on works which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit.*

Christ

Came to earth both as God and sinless man

[Col 2:9](#)—*For in Him the fullness of deity dwells in bodily form*

Demonstrated God's love by dying on the cross to pay sin's penalty

[Rom 5:8](#)—*But God demonstrated His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us*

[2 Cor 5:21](#)—*He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.*

Rose from the grave and is alive today

[1 Cor 15:4](#)—*And that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures*

Sinners

Must repent of all that dishonors God

[Isa 55:7](#)—*Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return to the Lord, and He will have compassion on him and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.*

[Luke 9:23](#)—*if anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me.*

Must believe in Christ as Lord and Savior

[Rom 10:9](#)—*that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved.*

Will you repent and believe in Christ?

[Acts 17:30](#)—*therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance God is declaring to men that all everywhere should repent.*

Don't hesitate to contact Pastor Brandon or Pastor Keith if you have any questions about this sermon or if you would like to know how to follow Christ.

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Additional Quotes

For, were it not good that evil things should also exist, the omnipotent God would almost certainly not allow evil to be, since beyond doubt it is just as easy for Him not to allow what He does not will, as for Him to do what He will. ~

Saint Augustine of Hippo

Every renewed heart is anxious to be free from even a speck of evil. ~ **Charles Spurgeon**

Evil is the real problem in the hearts and minds of men. It is not a problem of physics but of ethics. It is easier to de-nature plutonium than to de-nature the evil spirit of man. ~ **Albert Einstein**

A proper biblical theodicy recognizes God's right to do as he pleases, to not explain himself, to condemn sinners for the evil in the world, and to call sinners to accept him as the remedy for evil. ~ **John F. MacArthur; Richard Mayhue**

Theodicy involves a vindication of God's justice against the charge that the presence of evil in creation shows him to be unjust, impotent, both, or nonexistent. Theodicy declares that God is all-powerful and all-good even though this might not seem to be the case since evil exists in the creation. ~ **John F. MacArthur; Richard Mayhue**

There is nothing evil in matter itself. Evil lies in the spirit. Evils of the heart, of the mind, of the soul, of the spirit—these have to do with man's sin, and the only reason the human body does evil is because the human spirit uses it to do evil. ~ **A. W. Tozer**

My child, flee from every evil and everything that resembleth it. ~ **Didache**

The line separating good and evil passes not through states, nor between classes, nor between parties either—but right through every human heart—through all human hearts. ~ **Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn (School Teacher)**

God would never permit any evil if he could not bring good out of evil. ~
Thomas Watson

Next Time:

The Problem of Evil