

Matt. 6:5-15

- I. Don't pray for public acclaim, but to please God (5-6)
 - A. Neg: Don't pray for the sake of public acclaim (5)
 - 1. Praying like the hypocrites – for the sake of publicity – is not pleasing to God (5a-g)
 - a. Be careful not to pray for the sake of publicity and image (5a-c)
 - 1) When you pray (5a)
 - 2) Don't pray for public acclamation, like hypocrites (5b-c)
 - a) Do not be (5b)
 - b) Like the hypocrites [are] (5c)
 - b. Reason: Because they pray for the sake of publicity and glory (5d-g)
 - 1) Because they love to pray in front of others (5d-f)
 - a) Because they love (5d)
 - b) To pray in prominent public places (5e-f)
 - (1) While standing in the synagogues and on the corners of streets (5e)
 - (2) To pray (5f)
 - 2) Purpose: in order that they may appear to the people [to be pious] (5g)
 - 2. I emphasize that this is all the reward they will get (5h-i)
 - a) I am saying to you truly (5h)
 - b) They have fully received their reward (5i)
 - B. Pos: Pray to please God (6)
 - 1. Pray to your Father in secret (6a-d)
 - a) When you pray (6a)
 - b) Pray to your Father in secret, away from observation (6b-d)
 - 1) Go into your inner room (6b)
 - 2) Pray to your Father in a private place (6c-d)
 - a) Locking your door (6c)
 - b) Pray to your Father, Who is in Heaven (6d)
 - 2. And your Father, Who is seeing in secret, will recompense/reward you (6e)
- II. Don't pray with unthoughtful, superfluous babbling (7-8)
 - A. The Gentiles' bad example of babbling prayer (7)
 - 1. Don't follow the Gentiles' example of unthoughtful formulaic prayers (7a-c)
 - a) When praying (7a)
 - b) Don't spew an abundance of unthoughtful formulaic words, like Gentiles (7b-c)
 - 1) Do not speak an abundance of unthoughtful, meaningless words (7b)
 - 2) As the gentiles [do] (7c)
 - 2. Because they think that abundance of words is helpful (7d-e)
 - a) For they suppose (7d)
 - b) That they will be listened to because of the length of their speech (7e)
 - B. Don't follow their unprofitable example (8)

1. Therefore, do not be like them (8a)
2. Reason: Superfluous words are not necessary or helpful (8b-c)
 - a For your Father knows a need which you have (8b)
 - b Before you ask Him (8c)

III. How to pray (9-15)

A. A Model prayer (9-13)

1. Therefore, you, pray in this way (9a)
2. The Lord's Prayer (9b-13)
 - a Personal address: Our Father, the One in Heaven (9b)
 - b Model petitions to pray: (9c-13)
 - 1) Let Your Name be revered as holy (9c)
 - 2) Let Your Kingdom purposes take place (10)
 - a) Let Your Kingdom come (10a)
 - b) Let Your will be done (10b-c)
 - (1) Let Your will come to pass also upon Earth (10b)
 - (2) As [it is done] in Heaven (10c)
 - 3) Give to us today our necessary food (11)
 - 4) Forgive our sins, as we forgive (12)
 - a) And forgive to us our debts/guilt of sins (12a)
 - b) As we ourselves also have forgiven to those in debt/guilt to us (12b)
 - 5) Keep us from temptation and evil (13)
 - a) Neg: Do not bring us into temptation (13a)
 - b) Pos: But rescue us from evil/the evil one (13b)

B. Prayer is connected with forgiveness (14-15)

1. Pos: If you forgive, you will be forgiven (14)
 - a For, if you forgive to people their transgressions/wrongdoings (14a)
 - b Your Heavenly Father will also forgive to you (14b)
2. Neg: If you don't forgive, you won't be forgiven (15)
 - a But if you do not forgive to people (15a)
 - b Neither will your Father forgive your transgressions/wrongdoings (15b)