

THE LORD'S PRAYER FOR US TO EMULATE: TEACHING US HOW TO PRAY FROM OUR HEAVENLY FATHER'S PERFECT LOVING HEART



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*The parable of the merciless servant illustrates the meaning of “forgive us our **trespasses** as we forgive those who **trespass against us**,” a petition included in the Lord’s Prayer. Anger can be righteous, but when we let it harden into resentment it becomes a poison that blocks the grace of God from flowing into us and through us. Forgiveness removes the block.*

Just about everyone can recite the Lord’s Prayer from memory. That’s precisely the problem, though. We often rattle it off without really thinking about what we are saying.

FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES

*“Forgive us our **trespasses** as we forgive those who **trespass** against us.”* Whenever we pray this line, we are asking God to forgive us exactly in the same way as we forgive those who hurt us. In other words, if we are harbouring **unforgiveness** in our hearts as we say this prayer, we are calling a curse down upon ourselves.

Let’s face it. We are all in desperate need of the mercy of God. But time and time again, the Word of God makes it clear that the greatest block to His mercy is resentment. The Bible tells us how wrath and anger, cherished and held tight, are poisons that lead to spiritual death.

*PARABLE OF THE **MERCILESS** SERVANT*

Jesus knows this is so important that He includes a reminder of this lesson in His central prayer that He teaches to his disciples. And to drive the point home, He tells us the parable of the merciless servant, recorded in the Gospel of [Matthew \(18:21-35\)](#). As we listen to the story, we are incensed at the arrogance and hard-heartedness of someone who is forgiven a huge debt yet immediately throttles his neighbour who owes him a fraction of the amount he himself once owed.

Incensed, that is, until we realize the story is about us. For all of us who have ever nurtured a grudge are guilty of exactly the same thing.

Bringing up this issue is rather uncomfortable because we all have been hurt by others. Many have been hurt deeply. Is it wrong to have feelings of outrage over such crimes? Does forgiveness mean that we excuse the culprit and leave ourselves wide open to further abuse?

FORGIVENESS A DECISION, NOT A FEELING

Not at all. First of all, forgiveness is a decision, not a feeling. Think about our SAVIOUR The Lord Jesus, in His sacred human heart, how HE EXPRESSED tender feelings of affection and forgiveness TO HIS HEAVENLY FATHER DURING HIS GRIEVOUS DEATH in tears for those mocking Him as His life blood was being drained out on the cross. But He made a decision, expressed in a prayer: “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do” (Luke 23:34).

In other words, there was no vindictiveness, no desire to retaliate and cause pain, suffering and destruction to those who delighted in causing Him pain. Such desire for destructive vengeance is the kind of anger that is one of the seven deadly sins.

Notice that Jesus’ tormentors had not asked for forgiveness. Indeed they were still taking pleasure in causing Him harm. Yet Rather Jesus prayed to the Father for them, even making excuses for them – “they know not what they do.”

ANGER VS. RESENTMENT

Did Jesus ever experience anger against those who sought his life?

Absolutely. Righteous anger is the appropriate response to injustice. **It is meant to give us the emotional energy to confront that injustice and overcome it.** Recall how livid Jesus was in the face of the Pharisees’ hypocrisy, because it was blocking the access of others to His life-giving truth. But notice as well that He overturned the money-changer’s *tables*, to rescue the *lives of those in bondage*.

Forgiveness does not mean being a doormat. It does not mean sitting passively by while an alcoholic or abusive family member destroys not only your life but the lives of others. But taking

severe, sometimes even legal action does not mean resentment and vindictiveness, but rather the only means available to rescue that life from the enemies grip...wake that person up from hypnosis of the devils using them.

THE LORD'S PRAYER



Two versions of this prayer are recorded: the long form in the [Gospel of Matthew](#) in the middle of the [Sermon on the Mount](#), and the short form in the [Gospel of Luke](#) when "one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as [John](#) taught his disciples.'"

Matthew 6:9-13 Amplified Bible (AMP)

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(**trespasses**), as we have
forgiven our debtors [letting go of both the wrong and
the resentment].

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.]'

**When Jesus' disciples asked Him, Lord teach us how
to pray....**

Luke 11:2-4 21st Century King James Version (KJ21)

² And He said unto them, "When ye pray, say: Our
Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy
Kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in Heaven, so on
earth.

³ Give us day by day our daily bread.

⁴ And forgive us our sins, for we also forgive every one
that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil."

Be ye therefore **perfect**, even as your Father who is in Heaven
is **perfect**....Matthew 5:48

IN JAMES CHAPTER 3:2 THERE IS A REMARKABLE SCRIPTURE THAT SAYS: But if we **stumble** in many things which we do....BUT IF ANYONE DOES NOT STUMBLE IN HIS SPEECH, IN HIS WORDS, ••HE IS A **PERFECT MAN!!!**

(AMP)

2 For we all **stumble and sin** in many ways. If anyone does not **stumble in what he says [never saying the wrong thing]**, he is **a perfect man [fully developed in GODLY character, without serious flaws]**, able to **bridle=CONTROL his whole body and rein in his entire nature** [taming his **humus faults and weaknesses**].

(KJ21)

2 For in many things we all **offend**. If any man **offend not in word**, the same is **a perfect man** and able also to bridle the whole body.

THAT IS UNBELIEVABLE!

....***PERFECT** is the same word that's used in [Matthew 5 verse 8](#): "*Therefore be ye **PERFECT** JUST AS YOUR FATHER IN HEAVEN IS **PERFECT***".....James says, if we **stumble** in many things....If We get many things wrong....**But get this one thing right**...IF ANYONE DOES NOT **STUMBLE/OFFEND IN WORDS, HE IS A PERFECT MAN OR WOMAN! Think about that!....**AND IS ALSO ABLE TO BRIDLE OR **TAKE CONTROL OF HIS WHOLE PHYSICAL BODY!**....Now, I didn't say that and it's not New Age....**It is New Testament! SO WHAT YOU SPEAK HAS A PROFOUND EFFECT PHYSICALLY UPON YOU, IT HAS A PROFOUND EFFECT ON YOUR HOME, THE WALLS IN YOUR HOME, THE CAR.... WHAT YOU SPEAK CHANGES YOUR ENVIRONMENT!....**This is scary!!!

BEGIN YOUR JOURNEY BACK TO PEACE WITH GOD AND MEN

STEP 1

God loves you and has a plan for you!

The Bible says, “God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, [Jesus Christ], that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life” (John 3:16).

Jesus said, “I came that they may have life and have it abundantly” — a complete life full of purpose (John 10:10).

STEP 2

Man is sinful and separated from God.

We have all done, thought or said bad things, which the Bible calls “sin.” The Bible says, “All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23).

The result of sin is death, spiritual separation from God (Romans 6:23).

The good news?

STEP 3

God sent His Son to die for your sins!

Jesus died in our place so we could live with Him in eternity.

“God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8).

But it didn't end with His death on the cross. He rose again and still lives!

STEP 4

Would you like to receive God's forgiveness?

We can't earn salvation; we are saved by God's grace when we have faith in His Son, Jesus Christ. All you have to do is acknowledge you are a sinner, that Christ died for your sins, and ask His forgiveness. Then turn from your sins—that's called repentance. Jesus Christ knows you and loves you. What matters to Him is the attitude of your heart, your honesty. We suggest praying the following prayer to accept Christ as your Saviour:

NOW PRAY

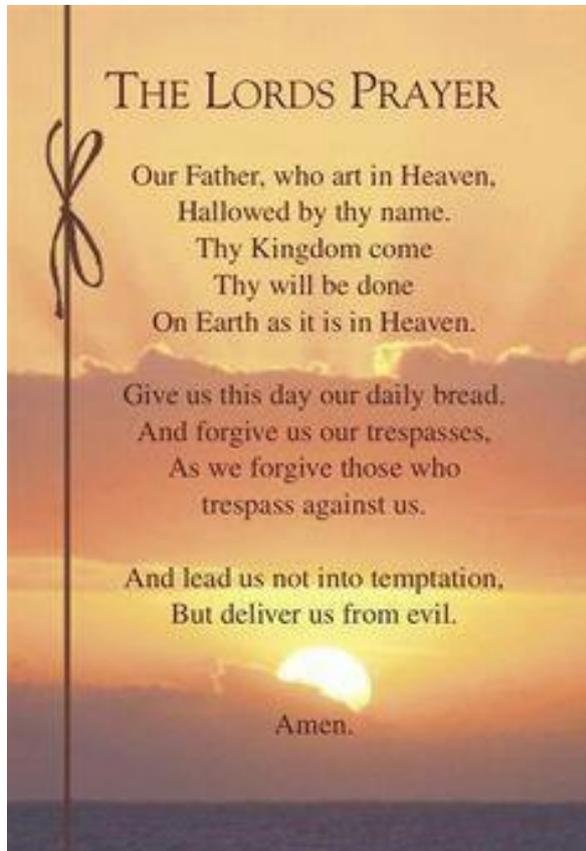
"Lord Jesus Christ, I am sorry for the things I have done wrong in my life. I ask YOUR forgiveness and now turn from everything which I know is wrong. Thank YOU for dying on the cross for me to set me free from my sins. Please come Into my heart and fill me with your Holy Spirit and be with me forever. Thank YOU Lord Jesus, Amen."

IF YOU PRAYED THIS PRAYER

We are excited that you have made this commitment to receive Jesus Christ as your saviour and to serve HIM as your Lord. This is the most Important day of your life. Make sure that you go out and buy a Bible or, you can start by downloading the Bible gateway apt: www.biblegateway.com
Here you will have access to most Bible versions and in every language.

WELCOME BACK TO THE KINGDOM OF GOD, YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER

THE LORD'S PRAYER



You can contact us below, plus access all of our previous messages in our archives in the links above.



<http://www.theministryofjesuschrist.org/contact-us>

THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU IN HOLINESS UNTIL THE GLORIOUS DAY OF HIS COMING! *"For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I may win more souls for Christ."* 1Cor. 9:19

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