

June 2016

From the Pastor



## Talking with Our Father

God is our Father. What comes to mind when you hear that? When I was a minister to at risk youth the term “father” did not give them a good impression of God. As I thought about this, I wondered where I could find a biblical view of God. Then I thought about when the Son taught His disciples about prayer. In that prayer I found one example of how the Son viewed the Father. Let’s look at this lesson on prayer to learn about God the Father.

**Matthew 6:9-15** <sup>9</sup> Pray then like this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. <sup>10</sup> Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. <sup>11</sup> Give us this day our daily bread, <sup>12</sup> and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. <sup>13</sup> And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. (ESV)



*Our Father in heaven*

God our Father dwells in heaven. Heaven is a wonderful place that is the home of God. We start by seeing God as Father who has a home for us.

*Hallowed be your name*

Our Father's name is a holy name. It is set apart from all other names. It is not a common name. It is a name above all names.

*Your kingdom come*

Our Father has a kingdom. He is the ruler of all. He is the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords.

*Your will be done*

Our Father has a plan for our lives. Whatever He desires should be our heart's desire. His will should be our will, and we should obey without question.

*On earth as it is in heaven*

Our Father God is omnipresent. There is no place you can go to escape God's presence.

*Give us this day our daily bread*

Our heavenly Father is the one who supplies all our needs. All we have is a result of God's provision.

*And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtor*

Our Father has the ability to not only provide for us, but to take care of our debts. These debts are not physical, even though God may help in that way, the debt forgiven is the debt of sin. As our Father forgives us, we should also forgive others.

*And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil*

Our Father empowers us to not fall to the temptations brought to us by the evil one. Our Father is so powerful; He can deliver us from the snares of the evil one, Satan.

Wow! We have a wonderful Father. I am so glad He is approachable and wants to love on us. Let me encourage you to spend a lot of time talking with your Father.

In Him and for His Glory,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Art". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.