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## Pray Like Jesus – Holy is Your Name

### Review

- Jesus was asked how to pray, and He replied, “Pray like this.”

Matthew 6:9-13 (NIV) “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, 10 your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. 11 Give us today our daily bread. 12 And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. 13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.”

- Jesus’ prayer was intentional. There is a progression in the prayer that moves us from who God is, to who we are, to what we should care about.

### This week – “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name”

- As we learn to pray like Jesus, it will cause us to worship God. Why?
  1. He is our Father.
  2. God is holy.
  3. He makes us holy.

### “OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN”

- Jesus is revealing something new about our relationship with God.
  - John 3:16 tells us God has only 1 begotten Son – Jesus.
  - But Ephesians says we are adopted into God’s family through Christ. (Ephesians 1:3-6)
  - This is made possible by what Jesus did on the cross. Jesus gave us new access to God.
    - Not only is God our Father, but we can have a close relationship with Him, the perfect father! (Romans 8:14-16)
- Something else that is important here is, because it is now “Our Father,” it means we now have spiritual brothers and sisters.
  - We don’t get to have “right” relationship with the Father, and not have relationship with the rest of the family!
- Jesus reminds us of something important. The Father is in Heaven.
  - He sees and knows more than we do. His view of life is not limited like ours.

### “HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME”

- Jesus asks the Father to “hallow” his name. The word, “hallowed” means to set apart as holy.
  - At the most basic level, the word, “Holy” actually means separate or different.
  - Regarding God, the separateness (holiness) is because there is none like Him.

*“Of all the attributes of God, holiness is the one that most uniquely describes Him and in reality, is a summation of all His other attributes. The word holiness refers to His separateness, His otherness, the fact that He is unlike any other being. It indicates His complete and infinite perfection. Holiness is the attribute of God that binds all the others together.” – John MacArthur*

- “When Jesus petitions God to hallow his name, he is asking that God act in such a way that he visibly demonstrates his holiness and his glory”.
- This statement occurs first in the prayer. It is designed to take our eyes off of us and put them on the One who is holy.
- Unique attributes of God:
  - **Infinite** (eternal), **Immutable** (unchanging), **Self-sufficient** (in need of nothing and no one), **Sovereign** (in control of everything), **Omnipresent** – (everywhere at once), **Omniscient** (all-knowing), **Omnipotent** (all-powerful).
  - He is also the just Judge. (Hebrews 4:13)
- The holiness of God presents a dilemma in the hearts and minds of mortal man. We are drawn to Him, but also cower in the all-revealing light of His majestic glory. (Isaiah 6:1-5)

## **GOD MAKES US HOLY**

- Not only is holiness possible for us; it is required. (Hebrews 12:14)
- The difference between God and us is that He is inherently holy while we, on the other hand, only become holy in relationship to Christ. (1 Corinthians 6:11)
- The New Testament emphasizes the pursuit of holiness in this world and the final attainment of holiness in the world to come. Holiness at its core means, separate, not morally perfect!
  - God's holiness has to do with WHO He is. Our holiness has to do with WHOSE we are.
  - Our holiness also has to do with the lifestyle we choose to live. (1 Peter 1:14-16)
  - Living a holy life isn't done on our own. We can't make ourselves more holy. It's only through cooperating with the Holy Spirit inside us. (Philippians 2:12-13)

## **OTHERS ARE DRAWN TO GOD BECAUSE OF OUR HOLINESS**

- As we pray like Jesus, we will inevitably pray for others, and it brings us closer to them. We have a mission - the task of reconciling people to him. (2 Corinthians 5:17-20)
- Many of us, because of our flaws, believe God can't use us. But God's Word tells us He wants to do amazing things through us! (Ephesians 3:20)
- God uses us through the way we live (1 Peter 2:12), sharing our faith, and the attitude we have as we engage ungodly people. (2 Timothy 2:23-26)
- When we see God as a Good Father, when we understand God's holiness, and when we allow him to make us holy - we pray like Jesus, and it will cause us to worship God!
- Text "Pray" to opt-in to a weekly prayer devotion.

### **For Small Group Discussion:**

**Opening Questions:** Was there ever a time when you had a memorized prayer that you recited regularly? What was it? What was your main takeaway from the sermon this week?

**Main Point:** As we learn to pray like Jesus, it causes us to worship God because He is our father.

**Main Scripture:** Matthew 6:9

#### **Head Questions:**

- What does holy mean?
- If God is holy, how can we possibly be "holy"?

#### **Heart Questions:**

- How does your image of God affect how you pray?
- How has your relationship with your earthly father shaped your relationship with God?

#### **Hands Questions:**

- Since God is our Father, others in the church body are our brothers and sisters. Who has God placed in your life that needs a brother/sister in Christ this season?
- Challenge: Take time to stop and pray. Pray out loud. Pray with another person. Pray a prayer of adoration to the Father. Acknowledge the ways you see God's holiness.

**Additional Scripture:** Romans 8:15-17, Luke 11:2

**Tips and Resources:** *Fathered by God* by John Eldridge, *Knowledge of the Holy* by A.W. Tozer.