



# Fidelity

Let's do what is good toward all men, and especially toward those who are of the household of the faith - Galatians 6:10

**6th August 2023**

## *The 21st Century Church Same Message; Different Presentation*



The 21st century church is identical to the original first century church in worship, teaching and practice. The Household of Faith meets on the first day of the week, partake of the Lord's supper and enjoy an agape feast.

Culturally and internationally, after more than two thousand years, the way we carry out our Lord's commands has progressed. To accompany the preaching, whenever possible, a PowerPoint is used to facilitate understanding. Church bulletins and daily Bible reading guides are published to assist in Christian growth.

During the pandemic, most churches pivoted to live streaming to conduct worship for members as we were not permitted to gather for worship. Brother Barnabas has been very proactive in helping us not only use this new technology, and also has been paying for the full cost of this for the past 3 years. We want to thank him for his invaluable assistance and generous contributions to the Household of Faith, in time, expertise and costs. We are now happy to take over the cost of the subscription to the live streaming platform.

Another update in our presentation is the use of the internet. Facebook and WhatsApp are convenient tools that help us keep us in touch and allow us to connect our activities to members, visitors and supporters all over the world.

In an effort to bring the church closer to our members during the pandemic, we redesigned

our website, making it more mobile-friendly and easy to use. We also secured our own public domain that is easy to remember - [www.hofsg.com](http://www.hofsg.com).

We continue to tell the old, old story but use every means (some new) available to us to do so.



**Fidelity** is published weekly by the Household of Faith meeting every Sunday @6pm at block 67, #07-10 Ayer Rajah Crescent, Singapore 139950. Postal address: as above. Website: [hofsg.com](http://hofsg.com). Facebook group: Household of Faith, Supporters and Friends. Minister, Henry Kong at [henry.kong@yahoo.com](mailto:henry.kong@yahoo.com). Mobile: +65 9326 0669.

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### Introduction

Completed 1 of 3 sections – Citizens of the Kingdom

- Their Character Matthew 5:3-12
- Their Influence Matthew 5:13-16

Now on 2nd section – Righteousness of the Kingdom

1. Murder vs Anger

**Matthew 6:33**  
But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

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Introduction

## 2. Lust and Vows

Marriage ceremony

Important areas of daily living



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Introduction

## 2. Lust

Matthew 5:27-32  
*You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery;' but I tell you that everyone who gazes at a woman to lust after her has committed adultery with her already in his heart.*

Adultery = married people

Lust = everyone

2 Timothy 2:22 *Flee from youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.*

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Introduction
2. Lust and Vows

## 2. Lust

Matthew 5:27-32  
*If your right eye causes you to stumble, pluck it out and throw it away from you. For it is more profitable for you that one of your members should perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.*

*If your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off, and throw it away from you: for it is profitable for you that one of your members should perish, and not your whole body be thrown into hell.*

*"It was also said, 'Whoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorce,' but I tell you that whoever puts away his wife, except for the cause of sexual immorality, makes her an adulteress; and whoever marries her when she is put away commits adultery.*

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Sermon Mount

Introduction  
2. Lust and Vows  
2. Lust

3. Vows

Matthew 5:33-37  
*"Again you have heard that it was said to them of old time, 'You shall not make false vows, but shall perform to the Lord your vows,'*  
  
*but I tell you, don't swear at all; neither by heaven, for it is the throne of God; nor by the earth, for it is the footstool of his feet; nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King.*  
  
*Neither shall you swear by your head, for you can't make one hair white or black.*  
  
*But let your 'Yes' be 'Yes' and your 'No' be 'no.' Whatever is more than these is of the evil one.*

Sermon Mount

Introduction  
2. Lust and Vows  
2. Lust

3. Vows

Back to marriage vows – over 50% broken  
  

Divorce Facts

Servings per marriage 42-45%  
  
Divorces per:  
1st Marriages 42%  
2nd Marriages 60%  
3rd Marriages 73%  
  
Average:  
Age 30  
Years before remarriage 3  
Divorces per hour 100

Recent data from USA

Sermon Mount

Introduction  
2. Lust and Vows  
2. Lust

3. Vows

Matthew 5:33-37  
*But let your 'Yes' be 'Yes' and your 'No' be 'no.' Whatever is more than these is of the evil one.*  
  
James 5:12  
*But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your "yes" be yes and your "no" be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.*  
  
Not wrong to vow. But must we? Are we men of our word?  
  
Matthew 12:36-37  
*I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak, for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.*



Sermon Mount

Introduction  
2. Lust and Vows  
2. Lust  
3. Vows

Conclusion

Lust and Vows inter-related

INTERNAL

Lust

EXTERNAL

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Sermon Mount

Introduction  
2. Lust and Vows  
2. Lust  
3. Vows

Conclusion

Lust and Vows inter-related

INTERNAL

Lust

EXTERNAL

Vow

Mark 7:23 All these evil things come from within, and defile the man."

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Call to Worship  
Scripture Reading  
Opening Prayer  
Congregational Singing  
Communion & Giving  
Exhortation  
Invitation  
Announcements  
Closing Prayer

REVENGE

LOVE

Next Week:  
Revenge and Love

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# Fidelity

Let's do what is good toward all men, and especially toward those who are of the household of the faith - Galatians 6:10

**13th August 2023**

## A Month of Testimonies Coming in September



The Bible has much to say about testimony. We read of Enoch in Hebrews 11:5 *"By faith, Enoch was taken away, so that he wouldn't see death, and he was not found, because God translated him. For he has had testimony given to him that before his translation he had been well pleasing to God."*

In September, we will take a break from the Sermon on the Mount series for our men to share their testimony with the congregation.

Instead of the usual sermon, they will exhort the congregation for about 20 minutes, sharing:

- How they became a Christian
- Who influenced their decision
- Why they choose Christianity
- What their faith means to them.

They will share their favourite verses from the Bible and tell us what it means to them.

Brothers Alfred and Paul Poon will kick off the series on the first 2 Sundays of September with other men following. If you would like to share your testimony, please let our minister know by talking or texting him.



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## Introduction

Completed 1 of 3 sections – Citizens of the Kingdom  
Now on 2nd section – Righteousness of the Kingdom

1. Anger vs murder
2. Lust vs adultery
3. Honesty vs vows

**Matthew 6:33**  
But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

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## Revenge and Love

2 of the strongest human emotions

Stuff that movies are made of

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## 4. Revenge

Matthew 5:38-42  
*"You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth.'*  
  
*But I tell you, don't resist him who is evil; but whoever strikes you on your right cheek, turn to him the other also.*  
  
*If anyone sues you to take away your coat, let him have your cloak also.*  
  
*Whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two. Give to him who asks you, and don't turn away him who desires to borrow from you.*

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## 4. Revenge

Have you ever been hurt by another?

*Situations like being ill-treated, bullied, shouted at...  
What was the first thing that came to your mind?*

*Even children will say, "It's not fair!" But what did  
Jesus say?*

*"You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye,  
and a tooth for a tooth.'*

*But I tell you, don't resist him who is evil; but whoever  
strikes you on your right cheek, turn to him the other  
also. If anyone sues you to take away your coat, let  
him have your cloak also.*

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## 4. Revenge



*Whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him  
two.*

*Give to him who asks you, and don't turn away him  
who desires to borrow from you.*

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## 4. Revenge



*Luke 23:34 Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for  
they don't know what they are doing."*

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Introduction  
Revenge and  
Love  
4. Revenge

## 5. Love

Matthew 5:43-48  
*"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor, and hate your enemy.'*

*But I tell you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who mistreat you and persecute you, that you may be children of your Father who is in heaven.*

*For he makes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the just and the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Don't even the tax collectors do the same? If you only greet your friends, what more do you do than others? Don't even the tax collectors do the same? Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.*

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Introduction  
Revenge and  
Love  
4. Revenge

## 5. Love

Matthew 5:43-48  
*"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor, and hate your enemy.'*

*But I tell you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who mistreat you and persecute you, that you may be children of your Father who is in heaven.*

Only religion that teaches to love your enemy and pray for those who mistreat you

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Introduction  
Revenge and  
Love  
4. Revenge

## 5. Love

What

- *bless those who curse you,*
- *do good to those who hate you, and*
- *pray for those who mistreat you and persecute you,*

Why - *children of your Father who is in heaven.*

*For he makes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the just and the unjust.*

- *For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have?*
- *Don't even the tax collectors do the same? If you only greet your friends, what more do you do than others? Don't even the tax collectors do the same?*
- *Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.*

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Sermon Mount

Introduction  
Revenge and Love  
4. Revenge

5. Love

How

- Jesus is asking us to make it our goal to love as our Heavenly Father loves.

Agape love

- Not a feeling
- Desiring good for the other

agape LOVE

[ἀγάπη] • Greek  
(n.) highest form of unconditional, selfless, sacrificial love; that God is and shows toward us. A fruit in the heart of a saved person. Love, not as a feeling but as action, without expecting anything in return.

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Sermon Mount

Introduction  
Revenge and Love  
4. Revenge  
5. Love

Conclusion

Revenge and Love – what will you choose?

Revenge Love

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Sermon Mount

Introduction  
Revenge and Love  
4. Revenge  
5. Love

Conclusion

Revenge and Love – what will you choose?

Vengeance belongs to God - Hebrews 10:30 *For we know him who said, "Vengeance belongs to me," says the Lord, "I will repay."* Again, *"The Lord will judge his people."*

We are to love others as God loves us

John 3:16 *For God so loved the world, that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life.*

1 John 3:16 *By this we know love, because he laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.*

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**20th August 2023**

## The Whole Duty of The Church: *To Speak the Truth in Love*



The more I read the word of God, the more I am led to see that my task as a minister, as well as the task of each and every member of the church is to speak the truth of God's word in love as commanded in Ephesians 4:15.

1. It is so important for the church to proclaim the truth as preserved and inspired by the Holy Spirit through the ages. We need to stay close to the Bible, telling it like it is without adding or subtracting from its divine revelations.

The core of this truth is the gospel of Christ. This must not only be told, but obeyed and lived in the lives of all. In doing so, sin must be denounced and all wrongdoing must be called out and dealt with.

2. Just as important, this truth must be spoken in love as our passage clearly instructs. Indeed, Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 13:2, that it does not matter the extent to which we go in our effort to practice the word of God; if we do not do it out of love, for then there is no profit at all.

In the years of my ministry, I have seen people in the church - from members to ministers and missionaries 'throw the book' at one and all, without being kind, charitable or patient. As a result, the faith of many are shipwrecked and many churches divided.

It is vital that we handle the word of God with love. Just as true giving must be done cheerfully, proper preaching must be done lovingly. Every Christian must present the gospel

in the way our Lord Jesus did, with loving compassion, so that no soul will miss heaven.

We all agree that what the world needs is the gospel of Christ. The way to proclaim the gospel is more than putting Bibles in hotel rooms or stuffing gospel tracts in mail boxes. I believe that every person in this world needs the opportunity to hear the gospel proclaimed in love, so that they can make a proper and heartfelt response to it.

An example of this is in Acts 17 where Paul shared the gospel to the Jews in Thessalonica and Berea. Since God has created us as free moral agents, we observe the various responses to the word of God. Given the opportunity to hear the gospel, our friends, relatives and neighbours will respond in accordance to their comprehension and motives, and will have to answer for their decision in the final day.

In the same way, our leaders need to speak the truth in love as they lead the church and confront sin. They have to answer for each soul that has gone astray, and deal with sin in the lives of members. Patiently and lovingly, they must minister so that none misses heaven. Let us all make it our duty to speak the truth lovingly.



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**Seronon Mount**

## Introduction

Completed Matthew chapter 5

I. WHO ARE IN THE KINGDOM  
Their blessedness - Matthew 5:3-12  
Their relation to the world - Matthew 5:13-16

II. WHAT IS THE KINGDOM  
In contrast to the Law - Matthew 5:17-48

Covered:

- 8 Beatitudes
- Salt and Light
- 5 contrasts

Matthew 5:48 *Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.*

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Introduction

## Outline

I. WHO ARE IN THE KINGDOM

- Their blessedness - Matthew 5:3-12
- Their relation to the world - Matthew 5:13-16

II. WHAT IS THE KINGDOM

- In contrast to the Law - Matthew 5:17-48
- In relation to God - Matthew 6:1-33
  - Alms
  - Prayer
  - Fast
  - Treasure
  - Vision
  - Service
  - Worry

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Introduction

## 1. Alms Giving

Matthew 6:1-4

*"Be careful that you don't do your charitable giving before men, to be seen by them, or else you have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. Therefore when you do merciful deeds, don't sound a trumpet before yourself, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may get glory from men. Most assuredly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you do merciful deeds, don't let your left hand know what your right hand does, so that your merciful deeds may be in secret, then your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly."*

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Introduction  
1. Alms Giving

## God Rewards our Deeds

Romans 2:4-6 *Or do you despise the riches of his goodness, forbearance, and patience, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance? ... the righteous judgment of God; who "will pay back to everyone according to their works:"*

Matthew 10:42 *And whoever in the name of a disciple gives to one of these little ones even a cup of cold water to drink, truly I say to you, he shall not lose his reward."*

Hebrews 11:26 *Considering the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he was looking to the reward.*

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## Rewards from God or men?

*"Be careful that you don't do your charitable giving before men, to be seen by them, or else you have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.*

*When our motive is to receive the praises of men, we will get our reward*

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## Rewards from God

*Therefore when you do merciful deeds, don't sound a trumpet before yourself, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may get glory from men.*

*Most assuredly I tell you, they have received their reward.*

*But when you do merciful deeds, don't let your left hand know what your right hand does, so that your merciful deeds may be in secret, then your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.*

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## Rewards from God

*But when you do merciful deeds, don't let your left hand know what your right hand does, so that your merciful deeds may be in secret, then your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.*



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**Introduction**  
**1. Alms Giving**  
 God rewards our deeds  
 Rewards from God or men?  
 Rewards from God

## Conclusion

In relation to God - Matthew 6:1-33

- Alms
- Prayer
- Fast
- Treasure
- Vision
- Service
- Worry



**Serving God**

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Call to Worship  
 Scripture Reading  
 Opening Prayer  
 Congregational Singing  
 Communion & Giving  
 Exhortation  
 Invitation  
 Announcements  
 Closing Prayer



Next Week:  
*Prayer*

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Call to Worship  
 Scripture Reading  
 Opening Prayer  
 Congregational Singing  
 Communion & Giving  
 Exhortation  
 Invitation  
 Announcements  
 Closing Prayer



Stay behind  
 and join us for our  
 Agape fellowship meal

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# BACK PAGE NEWS







# Fidelity

Let's do what is good toward all men, and especially toward those who are of the household of the faith - Galatians 6:10

27th August 2023

## 3 Keys to Making our Lives a Living Sacrifice Daily



We live in a complex world. If we are not focused, it is so easy to be distracted, occupied and stressed by many unimportant things.

**Are you distracted?** The Bible tells us in 1 Kings 20:39-40 how a soldier was busy here and there. As a result, the prisoner he was entrusted to watch over escaped. As a result, he had to pay the full penalty of his carelessness.

**Are you too busy?** There are many things that demand our time and attention. In Luke 10:40-42, Jesus compares the busyness of Martha with the focus of her sister, Mary.

**Are you burdened?** It is so easy in modern-day Singapore to be stressed out by our studies, careers and commitments in the home. Hebrews 12:1 urges us to lay aside every weight and sin that so easily ensnares us.

It is high time to adjust our priorities! Top on this list is to live our lives as a living sacrifice to God on a daily basis.

**1. To Live is Christ:** Paul's testimony in Philippians 1:21 is that the reason for his existence is Christ. Like Paul, Jesus Christ must be key in our lives. In everything we do, we must ask what would Jesus do if He was in our place? Each morning we need to ask what would Jesus have us do? Let Jesus be the deciding factor in all we do – not politics, our opinions or preferences. We must be willing to deny ourselves so that His will is accomplished.

**2. People Matters:** In Matthew 25:40, the Bible reveals "And the King will answer them, 'I assure you: Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of Mine, you did for Me.'" Everyone counts because each one is created in the image of God. The good that we do for one another, is regarded by Jesus as a favour done for Him personally. Jesus said in John 13:34, "As I have loved you, so you must love one another". In everything we do, we are called to value people, not count numbers and measure the success of our projects. We are to treat one another with respect - as friends, the way we want to be treated. People are not a bother, but priority for every Christian.

**3. Heaven is our Goal:** Hebrews 11:16 tells us that the men of God in the past "But they now desire a better place -- a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them." I find this very encouraging and reassuring because I want heaven to be my home too. Above all, souls are what we treasure and worth giving our lives for. Mark 8:36, 37 tells us, "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" God desires faithfulness and fruitfulness from each one of us. He does not demand success; everyone should do what he can. God will be pleased when we put Him first.




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## Introduction

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    Their relation to the world - Matthew 5:13-16

II. WHAT IS THE KINGDOM

    In contrast to the Law - Matthew 5:17-48

Covered:

- 8 Beatitudes
- Salt and Light
- 5 contrasts

Matthew 5:48 *Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.*

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## Outline

I. WHO ARE IN THE KINGDOM

    Their blessedness - Matthew 5:3-12

    Their relation to the world - Matthew 5:13-16

II. WHAT IS THE KINGDOM

    In contrast to the Law - Matthew 5:17-48

    In relation to God - Matthew 6:1-33

    In relation to man - Matthew 7:1-12

III. HOW TO ENTER THE KINGDOM

    The beginning of the way - Matthew 7:13-14

    The progress along the way - Matthew 7:15-20

    The end of the way - Matthew 7:21-27

*(modified from Executable Outlines)*

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## Outline

I. WHO ARE IN THE KINGDOM

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    In relation to God - Matthew 6:1-33

- Alms
- Prayer
- Fast
- Treasure
- Vision
- Service
- Worry

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Introduction  
Outline

## 2. Prayer

Quite a lengthy passage, including the Lord's prayer

Matthew 6:5-15 *"When you pray, you shall not be as the hypocrites, for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Most assuredly, I tell you, they have received their reward. But you, when you pray, enter into your inner chamber, and having shut your door, pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. In praying, don't use vain repetitions, as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard for their much speaking. Therefore don't be like them, for your Father knows what things you need, before you ask him."*

The Lord's Prayer

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Introduction  
Outline  
2. Prayer

## How to Pray

**1. Not to be seen of men** - Matthew 6:5-15 *"When you pray, you shall not be as the hypocrites, for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Most assuredly, I tell you, they have received their reward."*

**2. To be seen by God** – *"But you, when you pray, enter into your inner chamber, and having shut your door, pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly."*

**3. Don't use vain repetitions** – *"In praying, don't use vain repetitions, as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard for their much speaking. Therefore don't be like them, for your Father knows what things you need, before you ask him."*

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Introduction  
Outline  
2. Prayer  
How to Pray

## The Lord's Prayer

A model prayer

Just after Jesus warns about vain repetitions, many simply repeat this prayer

Pray like this: *'Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy. Let your Kingdom come. Let your will be done, as in heaven, so on earth. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also forgive our debtors. Bring us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For yours is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.'* *"For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you don't forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."*

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Introduction  
Outline  
2. Prayer  
How to Pray

## The Lord's Prayer

Pray like this:  
"Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy."

1. Good to start each prayer with adoration e.g. Psalms

Do not rush into petitions right away

Also good for first song to be a song of praise

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Introduction  
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2. Prayer  
How to Pray

## The Lord's Prayer

*"Let your Kingdom come. Let your will be done, as in heaven, so on earth. Give us today our daily bread."*

2. Petition – God's first, then ours

Request for necessities, bread not cake

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## The Lord's Prayer

*"Forgive us our debts, as we also forgive our debtors. Bring us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one."*

3. Confession

- Conditional
- Resolution

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## The Lord's Prayer

*"For yours is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen."*

4. Thanksgiving

So often we do not take time to thank God

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## Conclusion

*"For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you don't forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."*

A reminder to effective prayer

Matthew 5:23-24 *"If therefore you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has anything against you, leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift."*

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The Lord's Prayer

## Conclusion

The ACTS of Prayer:

- **A**doration
- **C**onfession
- **T**hanksgiving
- **S**upplication

Romans 8:26  
*"Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words."*

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