

Praying the Lord's Prayer

Martin Luther & C. S. Lewis

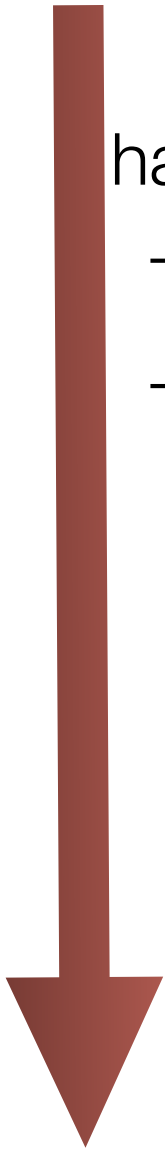
“Lord, teach us to pray.”

-Luke 11:1

“Man is the creature with a mystery in his heart
that is bigger than himself.”

-Hans Urs von Balthasar

The Descending Movement of the Lord's Prayer



Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from **evil**.

The Lord of the Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven,

“Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father” (John 14:8)

hallowed be thy name.

“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me” (John 17:6)

Thy kingdom come.

“I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God . . . for I was sent for this purpose.” (Luke 4:43)

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

“My food is to do the will of him who sent me” (John 4:34)

“My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will. . . . may your will be done” (Matt. 26:39, 42)

The Lord of the Lord's Prayer

Give us this day our daily bread,

“I am the bread of life” (John 6:35)

and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us,

“Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do” (Luke 23:34)

and lead us not into temptation,

“For because he himself has suffered and been tempted, he is able to help those who are tempted” (Heb. 4:15)

but deliver us from evil.

“My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one.” (John 17:15)

The Structure of the Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us,

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever.

Amen.

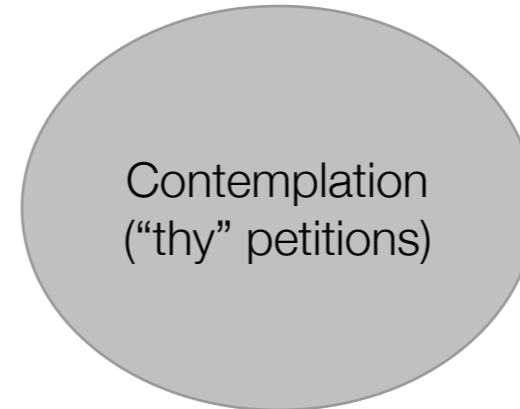
The Structure of the Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name. (honour)

Thy kingdom come. (kingship)

Thy will be done (obedience)



on earth as it is **in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread, (provision)

and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, (forgiveness)

and lead us not into temptation, (guidance)

but deliver us from evil. (protection)

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Structure of the Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name. (honour)

Thy kingdom come. (kingship)

Thy will be done (obedience)

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, (provision)

and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, (forgiveness)

and lead us not into temptation, (guidance)

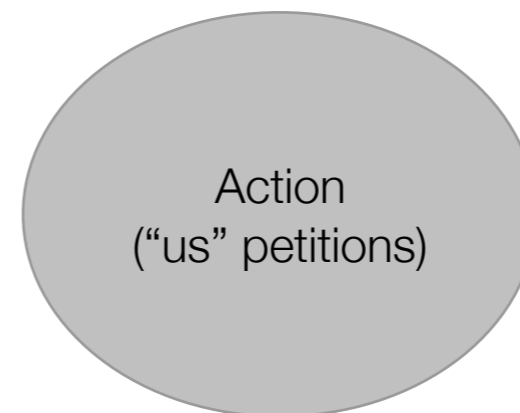
but deliver us from evil. (protection)

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever.

Amen.



The Structure of the Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name. (honour)

Thy kingdom come. (kingship)

Thy will be done (obedience)

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, (provision)

and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, (forgiveness)

and lead us not into temptation, (guidance)

but deliver us from evil. (protection)

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**



Contemplation

Martin Luther

*How One Should Pray: For Master
Peter the Barber (1535)*



A Simple Way to Pray

- the last of twenty-one publications on the Lord's Prayer by Luther
- Written for one of his oldest and best friends, Master Peter, whom he'd known for at least eighteen years
- Based on the structure of Luther's *Small Catechism*, which he regarded as one of his most important works
- Shortly after Luther wrote this, Master Peter was plunged into tragedy



Ten Commandments

The First Commandment.
You shall have no other gods.
What does this mean?—Answer.
We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

The Second Commandment.
You shall not take the name of the Lord, your God, in vain.
What does this mean?—Answer.
We should fear and love God that we may not curse, swear, use witchcraft, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.

The Third Commandment.
You shall keep the day of rest holy.
What does this mean?—Answer.
We should fear and love God that we may not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred, and gladly hear and learn it.

The Apostles Creed

The First Article.
Of Creation.
I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.
What does this mean?—Answer.
I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my limbs, my reason, and all my senses, and still preserves me therein; in addition thereto, clothing and shoes, meat and drink, house and household, wife and children, fields, cattle, and all my goods; that He provides me richly and daily with all that I need to support this body and life, protects me from all danger, and guards me and preserves me from all evil; and all this out of pure, fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me, for all which I owe it to Him to thank, praise, serve, and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

The Second Article.
Of Redemption.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.
What does this mean?—Answer.
I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won (liberated) me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with the innocent suffering and death, in order that I may be His own, and live under Him in the kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, even as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

The Third Article.
Of Sanctification.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; who bestows Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.
What does this mean?—Answer.
I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Ghost has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith; even as He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith; in which Christian Church He forgives daily and richly all sin to me and all believers, and at the last He will raise me and all believers in Christ to everlasting life. This is most certainly true.

The Fourth Commandment.
You shall honor your father and your mother.
What does this mean?—Answer.
We should fear and love God that we may not despise our fathers and mothers, but give them honor, love, obey, and hold them in love and esteem.

The Fifth Commandment.
You shall not kill.
What does this mean?—Answer.
We should fear and love God that we may not hurt our hearts our neighbor in his body, but help and defend him in every bodily need.

The Sixth Commandment.
You shall not commit adultery.
What does this mean?—Answer.
We should fear and love God that we may lead a chaste and decent life in words and deeds, and each love and honor their spouses.

The Seventh Commandment.
You shall not steal.
What does this mean?—Answer.
We should fear and love God that we may not take our neighbor's money or property, nor get them by false wares or dealing, but help him to improve and protect his property and business.

The Eighth Commandment.
You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
What does this mean?—Answer.
We should fear and love God that we may not deceitfully belie, betray, slander, or defame our neighbor; but defend him, speak well of him, and yet the best construction on everything.

The Ninth Commandment.
You shall not covet your neighbor's house.
What does this mean?—Answer.
We should fear and love God that we do not craftily seek to get our neighbor's inheritance or house, and obtain it by a show of right, etc.; but help and be of service to him in keeping it.

The Tenth Commandment.
You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his maid-servant, nor his maid-servant, nor his cattle, nor anything that is his.
What does this mean?—Answer.
We should fear and love God that we may not covet, desire, or snatch away our neighbor's wife, servants, or cattle; but urge them to stay and do their duty.

What Does God Say of All These Commandments?
Answer.
He says this (Read, Matt. 23:23): I the Lord, your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generation of them that hate Me, and showing mercy to thousands of them that love Me and keep My commandments.
What does this mean?—Answer.
God threatens to punish all that transgress these commandments. Therefore we should dread His wrath and not act contrary to these commandments. But His precious grace and every blessing to all that keep these commandments. Therefore we should also love and trust in Him, and gladly do according to His commandments.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven.
What does this mean?—Answer.
God would thereby tenderly urge us to believe that He is our true Father, and that we are His true children, so that we may ask Him confidently with all assurance, as dear children ask their dear Father.

The First Petition.
Hallowed be Thy name.
What does this mean?—Answer.
God's name is indeed holy in itself; but we pray in this petition that it may become holy among us also.
How is this done?—Answer.
When the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we as the children of God also lead holy lives in accordance with it. To this end help us, dear Father in heaven. But he that teaches and lives otherwise than God's Word teaches profanes the name of God among us. From this preserve us, Heavenly Father.

The Second Petition.
Thy Kingdom come.
What does this mean?—Answer.
The kingdom of God comes indeed without our prayer, of itself; but we pray in this petition that it may come among us also.
How is this done?—Answer.
When our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead a godly life here in time and endure in eternity.

The Third Petition.
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
What does this mean?—Answer.
The good and gracious will of God is done indeed without our prayer; but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.
How is this done?—Answer.
When God breaks and hinders every evil counsel, and will which would not let us follow the name of God nor let His Kingdom come, such as the will of the devil, the world, and our flesh; but strengthens and keeps us steadfast in His Word and in faith unto our end. This is His gracious and good will.

The Fourth Petition.
Give us this day our daily bread.
What does this mean?—Answer.
God gives daily bread, even without our prayer, to all wicked men; but we pray in this petition that He would lead us to know it, and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.
What is meant by daily bread?—Answer.
Everything that belongs to the support and wants of the body, such as meat, drink, clothing, shoes, house, household, field, cattle, money, goods, a good spouse, pious children, pious servants, pious and faithful magistrates, good government, good weather, peace, health, discipline, honor, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

The Fifth Petition.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
What does this mean?—Answer.
We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look upon our sins, nor deny such petitions on account of them; for we are worthy of none of the things for which we pray, neither have we deserved them; but that He would grant them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much, and indeed deserve nothing but punishment. So will we surely, on our part, also heartily forgive and also readily do good to those who sin against us.

The Sixth Petition.
And lead us not into temptation.
What does this mean?—Answer.
God indeed tempts no one; but we pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us, so that the devil, the world, and our flesh may not deceive us, nor seduce us into mischief, despair, and other great shame and vice; and though we be assailed by them, that still we may finally overcome and gain the victory.

The Seventh Petition.
But deliver us from evil.
What does this mean?—Answer.
We pray in this petition, as in a summary, that our Father in heaven would deliver us from all manner of evil, of body and soul, property and honor; and at last, when our last hour shall come, grant us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this vale of tears to Himself into heaven. Amen.
How does this mean?—Answer.
That I should be certain that these petitions are acceptable to our Father in heaven and heard; for He Himself has commanded us so to pray, and has promised that He will hear us. Amen, Amen; that is, Yes, yes, I shall do so.

A Simple Way to Pray

- “This in short is the way I use the Lord’s Prayer when I pray it. To this day I suckle at the Lord’s Prayer like a child, and as an old man eat and drink from it and never get my fill.”
- About the Ten Commandments he says, “I take one part after another and . . . divide each commandment into four parts, thereby fashioning a garland of four strands.”
- Same for petitions of Lord’s prayer: instruction, thanksgiving, confession, prayer



Ten Commandments

The First Commandment.
You shall have no other gods.
What does this mean?—Answer.
We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

The Second Commandment.
You shall not take the name of the Lord, your God, in vain.
What does this mean?—Answer.
We should fear and love God that we may not curse, swear, use witchcraft, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.

The Third Commandment.
You shall keep the day of rest holy.
What does this mean?—Answer.
We should fear and love God that we may not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred, and gladly hear and learn it.

The Apostles Creed

The First Article.
Of Creation.
I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.
What does this mean?—Answer.
I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my limbs, my reason, and all my senses, and still preserves me therein; in addition thereto, clothing and shoes, meat and drink, house and household, wife and children, fields, cattle, and all my goods; that He provides me richly and daily with all that I need to support this body and life, protects me from all danger, and guards me and preserves me from all evil; and all this out of pure, fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me, for all which I owe it to Him to thank, praise, serve, and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

The Second Article.
Of Redemption.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.
What does this mean?—Answer.
I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won (liberated) me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with the innocent suffering and death, in order that I may be His own, and live under Him in the kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, even as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

The Third Article.
Of Sanctification.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; who bestows Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.
What does this mean?—Answer.
I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Ghost has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith; even as He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith; in which Christian Church He forgives daily and richly all sins to me and all believers, and at the last He will raise me and all believers in Christ to everlasting life. This is most certainly true.

The Fourth Commandment.
You shall honor your father and your mother.
What does this mean?—Answer.
We should fear and love God that we may not despise nor anger our parents and masters, but give them honor, love, obey, and hold them in love and esteem.

The Fifth Commandment.
You shall not kill.
What does this mean?—Answer.
We should fear and love God that we may not hurt our neighbor in his body, but help and defend him in every bodily need.

The Sixth Commandment.
You shall not commit adultery.
What does this mean?—Answer.
We should fear and love God that we may lead a chaste and decent life in words and deeds, and each love and honor their spouses.

The Seventh Commandment.
You shall not steal.
What does this mean?—Answer.
We should fear and love God that we may not take our neighbor's money or property, nor get them by false wares or dealing, but help him to improve and protect his property and business.

The Eighth Commandment.
You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
What does this mean?—Answer.
We should fear and love God that we may not deceitfully belie, betray, slander, or defame our neighbor; but defend him, speak well of him, and yet the best construction on everything.

The Ninth Commandment.
You shall not covet your neighbor's house.
What does this mean?—Answer.
We should fear and love God that we do not craftily seek to get our neighbor's inheritance or house, and obtain it by a show of right, etc.; but help and be of service to him in keeping it.

The Tenth Commandment.
You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his man-servant, nor his maid-servant, nor his cattle, nor anything that is his.
What does this mean?—Answer.
We should fear and love God that we may not covet, lust, or carry away our neighbor's wife, servants, or cattle; but urge them to stay and do their duty.

What Does God Say of All These Commandments?
Answer.
He says this (Matt. 23:23): I tell you, your God, my jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generation of them that hate Me, and showing mercy to thousands of them that love Me and keep My commandments.
What does this mean?—Answer.
God threatens to punish all that transgress these commandments. Therefore we should dread His wrath and not act contrary to these commandments. But He bestows grace and even blessing to all that keep these commandments. Therefore we should also love and trust in Him, and gladly do according to His commandments.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven.
What does this mean?—Answer.
God would thereby tenderly urge us to believe that He is our true Father, and that we are His true children, so that we may ask Him confidently with all assurance, as dear children ask their dear father.

The First Petition.
Hallowed be Thy name.
What does this mean?—Answer.
God's name is indeed holy in itself; but we pray in this petition that it may become holy among us also.
How is this done?—Answer.
When the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we as the children of God also lead holy lives in accordance with it. To this end help us, dear Father in heaven. But he that teaches and lives otherwise than God's Word teaches profanes the name of God among us. From this preserve us, Heavenly Father.

The Second Petition.
Thy Kingdom come.
What does this mean?—Answer.
The kingdom of God comes indeed without our prayer, of itself; but we pray in this petition that it may come among us also.
How is this done?—Answer.
When our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead a godly life here in time and endure in eternity.

The Third Petition.
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
What does this mean?—Answer.
The good and gracious will of God is done indeed without our prayer; but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.
How is this done?—Answer.
When God breaks and hinders every evil counsel and will which would not let us follow the name of God nor let His Kingdom come, such as the will of the devil, the world, and our flesh; but strengthens and keeps us steadfast in His Word and in faith unto our end. This is His gracious and good will.

The Fourth Petition.
Give us this day our daily bread.
What does this mean?—Answer.
God gives daily bread us, even without our prayer, to all wicked men; but we pray in this petition that He would lead us to know it, and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.
What is meant by daily bread?—Answer.
Everything that belongs to the support and wants of the body, such as meat, drink, clothing, shoes, house, household, field, cattle, money, goods, a good spouse, pious children, pious servants, pious and faithful magistrates, good government, good weather, peace, health, discipline, honor, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

The Fifth Petition.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
What does this mean?—Answer.
We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look upon our sins, nor deny such petitions on account of them; for we are worthy of none of the things for which we pray, neither have we deserved them; but that He would grant them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much, and indeed deserve nothing but punishment. So will we surely, on our part, also heartily forgive and also readily do good to those who sin against us.

The Sixth Petition.
And lead us not into temptation.
What does this mean?—Answer.
God indeed tempts no one; but we pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us, so that the devil, the world, and our flesh may not deceive us, nor seduce us into mischief, despair, and other great shame and vice; and though we be assailed by them, that still we may finally overcome and gain the victory.

The Seventh Petition.
But deliver us from evil.
What does this mean?—Answer.
We pray in this petition, as in a summary, that our Father in heaven would deliver us from all manner of evil, of body and soul, property and honor; and at last, when our last hour shall come, grant us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this vale of tears to Himself into heaven. Amen.
How does this mean?—Answer.
That I should be certain that these petitions are acceptable to our Father in heaven and heard; for He Himself has commanded us so to pray, and has promised that He will hear us. Amen, Amen; that is, Yes, yes, I shall do so.

I need to support this body and life, protects me from all danger, and guards me and preserves me from all evil; and all this out of pure, fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me; for all which I owe it to Him to thank, praise, serve, and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

The Second Article.

Of Redemption.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

What does this mean?—Answer.

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won [delivered] me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, in order that I may be His own, and live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, even as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

The Third Article.

Of Sanctification.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; one holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

What does this mean?—Answer.

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Ghost has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith; even as He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith; in which Christian Church He forgives daily and richly all sins to me and all believers, and at the last day will raise up me and all the dead, and will give to me and to all believers in Christ everlasting life. This is most certainly true.

The Lords Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven.

What does this mean?—Answer.

God would thereby tenderly urge us to believe that He is our true Father, and that we are His true children, so that we may ask Him confidently with all assurance, as dear children ask their dear father.

The First Petition.

Hallowed be Thy name.

What does this mean?—Answer.

God's name is indeed holy in itself; but we pray in this petition that it may become holy among us also.

How is this done?—Answer.

When the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we as the children of God also lead holy lives in accordance with it. To this end help us, dear Father in heaven. But he that teaches and lives otherwise than God's Word teaches profanes the name of God among us. From this preserve us, Heavenly Father.

The Second Petition.

Thy Kingdom come.

What does this mean?—Answer.

The kingdom of God comes indeed without our prayer, of itself; but we pray in this petition that it may come unto us also.

How is this done?—Answer.

When our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead a godly life here in time and yonder in eternity.

The Third Petition.

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

What does this mean?—Answer.

The good and gracious will of God is done indeed without our prayer; but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.

How is this done?—Answer.

When God breaks and hinders every evil counsel and will which would not let us hallow the name of God nor let His kingdom come, such as the will of the devil, the world, and our flesh; but strengthens and keeps us steadfast in His Word and in faith unto our end. This is His gracious and good will.

The Fourth Petition.

Give us this day our daily bread.

What does this mean?—Answer.

God gives daily bread, even without our prayer, to all wicked men; but we pray in this petition that He would lead us to know it, and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

What is meant by daily bread?—Answer.

Everything that belongs to the support and wants of the body, such as meat, drink, clothing, shoes, house, homestead, field, cattle, money, goods, a pious spouse, pious children, pious servants, pious and faithful magistrates, good government, good weather, peace, health, discipline, honor, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

The Fifth Petition.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

What does this mean?—Answer.

We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look upon our sins, nor deny such petitions on account of them; for we are worthy of none of the things for which we pray, neither have we deserved them; but that He would grant them all to us by grace; for we daily sin much, and indeed deserve nothing but punishment. So will we verily, on our part, also heartily forgive and also readily do good to those who sin against us.

The Sixth Petition.

And lead us not into temptation.

What does this mean?—Answer.

God, indeed, tempts no one; but we pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us, so that the devil, the world, and our flesh may not deceive us, nor seduce us into misbelief, despair, and other great shame and vice; and though we be assailed by them, that still we may finally overcome and gain the victory.

The Seventh Petition.

But deliver us from evil.

What does this mean?—Answer.

We pray in this petition, as in a summary, that our Father in heaven would deliver us from all manner of evil, of body and soul, property and honor, and at last, when our last hour shall come, grant us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this vale of tears to Himself into heaven. Amen.

What does this mean?—Answer.

That I should be certain that these petitions are acceptable to our Father in heaven and



C. S. Lewis

Letters to Malcolm: Chiefly on Prayer (1964)

Letters to Malcolm

- Lewis's last book, published posthumously
- He had long wanted to write a book on prayer, but the breakthrough came when he decided to write it as an "overhead conversation" in a fictional correspondence.
- Written to Malcolm (married to Betty with a son George), the fiction done so well that many have thought it was real!
- Two laymen discussing together their problems in prayer.
- Topics include the liturgy, set versus extempore prayers, imagination in prayer, causality and prayer, prayer and personality, suffering and doing God's will, mysticism, the body in prayer, and using the Lord's prayer to structure our prayers.



Letters to Malcolm

- Chapter 5 on his practice of “festooning” the Lord’s Prayer

“I call them ‘festoons’, by the way, because they don’t (I trust) obliterate the plain, public sense of the petition but are merely hung on it.”

A pattern of concentric circles, like the waves the ripple out after a pebble hits the water: “And *here* can of course be taken not only for ‘in my heart’, but for ‘in this college’ —in England—in the world in general.”





The Lord's Prayer as Jazz

A structure for improvisation

“Jazz is not just 'Well, man, this is what I feel like playing.' It's a very structured thing that comes down from a tradition and requires a lot of thought and study.”

— **Wynton Marsalis**

Improvising on the themes of the Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name. (honour)

Thy kingdom come. (kingship)

Thy will be done (obedience)

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, (provision)

and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, (forgiveness)

and lead us not into temptation, (guidance)

but deliver us from evil. (protection)

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever.

Amen.