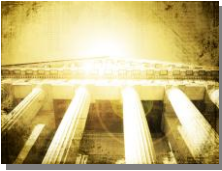


## “Four Pillars of a Strong Church” - Part 1

Matthew 6:9-13



Pillar 1: “Passionate Prayer to God - Part 1”

Jesus said, “It is written, ‘My house shall be a house of prayer,’ but you have made it a den of robbers.” (Luke 19:46 ESV)

**Big Idea:** “because Jesus Christ commanded His church to be a House of Prayer, we fulfill His command when we pray according to the model he set forth!”

### Reverence For God (6:9)

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,” (Matt 6:9 NIV)

- Jesus wants us to forget our circumstances for a minute and focus heavenward
- We see that the name, *onoma*, of God, or His authority, His characteristics and attributes, are *hagiozo* or set apart from all the rest.

### Response To God (6:10)

“Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.” (Matt 6:10 NIV)

- Knowing who God is demands an active response from those who say they know Him. The right response is submission. It is God’s people, doing God’s work, God’s way!
- Doing the will of God is to be our only priority, not just one on a list of priorities!

### Request From God (6:11-12)

“Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.” (Matt 6:11-12 NIV)

- Supplication - asking God to give us our needs, when we need them.
- Confession - a prayer to restore our fellowship with the Father when this fellowship has been hindered by the sins of our flesh.

### Ready With God (6:13)

“And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.” (Matt 6:13 NIV)

- Jesus instructs us to ask for God’s guidance as we launch out into our day so that we can remain pure.

### So What?

Would it be worth praying if God never answered our prayers according to the answer we desired? Yes, because the only enduring motive for prayer is that **God is worthy to be sought!**

So...let’s pray...

1. Father you are [                    ], therefore, I will [                    ]
2. Father, you have promised to meet my needs, so I pray for [                    ], also, I pray that you would [                    ], according to your perfect will.
3. Father, because I want to be like you, I confess to you my sin of [                    ], and repent of it, never wanting to repeat it, and acknowledge your forgiveness through Jesus Christ. Help me to forgive [                    ] for the wrong they have done to me in the same way.
4. Finally Father, because I will be doing [                    ], today, I pray that you keep me from those temptations to sin when I am involved in [                    ], and deliver me from those things that would cause dishonor to your name. In Jesus name amen.

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