Discovering the Christian Faith

Session 7. A Conversational Relationship

Prayer

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- Mystery, not magic

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- Prayer is simply speaking with God.

"And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words."

Matthew 6:7

Prayer

- Mystery, not magic
- Prayer is simply speaking with God.
- Putting your anxieties into His hands.

"Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you."

1 Peter 5:7

Prayer

- Mystery, not magic
- Prayer is simply speaking with God.
- Putting your anxieties into His hands.
- We intercede on behalf of other people.

"With this in mind, we constantly pray for you."

1 Thessalonians 1:11

How should we pray?

"When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures."

James 4:3

How should we pray?

"And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you."

Matthew 6:5-6

How should we pray?

"This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us."

1 John 5:14

How should we pray?

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened."

Matthew 7:7-8

How should we pray?

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:6-7

How Should We Pray?

- With faith in his promises.
- According to his will.
- In the name of Jesus.
- We pray only to God.
- God answers prayer in his way at his time.

The Lord's Prayer

- Given by our Lord
- When you pray, pray this way . . .
  - A **GROUP** prayer
  - A **PATTERN** for prayer

The Lord's Prayer

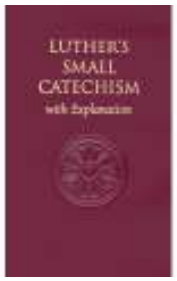
Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven,
NAME: *hallowed be Thy name,*
KINGDOM: *Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*
PROVISION: *Give us this day our daily bread;*
FORGIVENESS: *and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;*
GUIDANCE: *and lead us not into temptation,*
PROTECTION: *but deliver us from evil.*
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen

The Small Catechism

- Prayer
  - Questions 193-235
  - Pages 174-201



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