

# DIAMOND INSTITUTE

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Year 1 – Winter Semester  
Course – Prevailing Prayer  
Session 8  
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## SESSION 8 – THE DISCIPLES PRAYER AND NAME OF JESUS

Is there a divine pattern to pray? How about practical teaching and instructions from the Word of God on what we should pray? Is there power in the name of Jesus? The answer is \_\_\_\_\_!

### 1) JESUS TAUGHT HIS DISCIPLES TO PRAY

The prayer commonly referred to as “The Lord’s Prayer” and “The Disciples Prayer” was taught by the Lord Jesus Christ on more than one occasion. Jesus taught this manner of prayer right in the middle His famous “*Sermon on the Mount*” recorded in Matthew’s gospel chapter six. This kind of prayer was to be practiced just like Jesus teaching on giving and fasting, two other spiritual disciplines taught by Christ to His disciples in the same chapter. At another time Luke recorded that Jesus taught His disciples the same prayer in response to their request that He teach them how to pray. (Luke 11)

### 2) THE DISCIPLES ASKED JESUS TO TEACH THEM TO PRAY

Luke 11:1-4 Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, *that* one of His disciples said to Him, “Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.”<sup>2</sup> So He said to them, “When you pray, say: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as *it is* in heaven.”<sup>3</sup> Give us day by day our daily bread.<sup>4</sup> And forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.”

Matthew records the same prayer as Luke but with the following emphasis on giving glory to God and the need to forgive others while praying to be able to receive God’s forgiveness:

Matthew 6:13-14 For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.<sup>14</sup> “For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.<sup>15</sup> But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

### 3) DEFENSE OF THE LORD’S PRAYER

In recent years some have taught that the Lord’s prayer is not a valid prayer for Believers to practice \_\_\_\_\_. Their argument is based on the position that what Jesus was teaching to His disciples only applied to the Jews under the old covenant and that the Lord’s prayer is not mentioned in the teachings of the apostle Paul.

First, if the prayer that Jesus taught His disciples to pray in Matthew 6 is not to be practiced today then you have to dismiss all Jesus taught in chapter five and all that followed in chapter seven. Furthermore, to say we must not practice the Lord's prayer is in direct contradiction to the instructions the resurrected Christ gave to His apostles at the great commission.

Matthew 28:18-20 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ them to observe \_\_\_\_\_ things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age." Amen.

The reason that the apostle Paul never made mention of the Lord's prayer is probably because it was already so widely used by the Christian community. Certainly Paul would never have taught contrary to the words of Christ. He actually told Timothy his young protégé to avoid anyone that did not agree with the teachings of Christ:

1 Timothy 6:3-4 If anyone teaches \_\_\_\_\_ and does not consent to wholesome words, **even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ**, and to the doctrine which accords with godliness, <sup>4</sup> he is proud, knowing nothing, but is obsessed with disputes and arguments over words, from which come envy, strife, reviling, evil suspicions,

#### 4) EARLY CHURCH FATHERS THAT TAUGHT THE LORDS PRAYER

It is true that church history that recorded what early Christian leaders taught is not equal to the authority of written Scripture. However, examining the teachings of early church leaders gives us an idea of core values that were taught and their understanding of the Scriptures. The question is; Did early church fathers use the Lord's prayer? The following quotes will answer the question \_\_\_\_\_ absolutely.

##### a) **The Didache (50 AD)** - The Lord's Teaching by the Twelve Apostles to the Nations.

Chapter 8. Fasting and Prayer (the Lord's Prayer). But let not your fasts be with the hypocrites, for they fast on the second and fifth day of the week. Rather, fast on the fourth day and the Preparation (Friday). Do not pray like the hypocrites, but **rather as the Lord commanded in His Gospel**, like this: 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 today our daily (needful) bread, and forgive us our debt as we also forgive our debtors. And bring us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one (or, evil); for Thine is the power and the glory for ever..Pray this three times each day.

The Didache claims to have been authored by the twelve apostles. While this is unlikely, the work could be a direct result of the first Apostolic Council, c.50 C.E. (Acts 15:28).

**b) Justin Martyr: (103–165 AD)** was an early Christian apologist. Chapter XVII.—There is but one Lord and one God,...For this reason also He has taught us to say in prayer, “And forgive us our debts;”<sup>45914591</sup> Matthew 6:12 since indeed He is our Father, whose debtors we were, having transgressed His commandments. Ref; Early Church Fathers

**c) St. Cyprian (200-258 AD)** Was the Overseer of the church in Carthage, North Africa, during a period of fierce persecution. After many years of persecution during which the church existed underground he was captured and executed by the Romans.

He wrote in Chapter 6 of his book on Christian teachings: Learning these things most beloved brethren, from the sacred reading, after we have learned how we should approach prayer, let us learn also, with the Lord as our teacher, what to pray. 'In this manner', He says, 'Pray ye: Our Father who art in heaven...Ref; Early Church Fathers

#### **d) The Apostolic Constitutions (4<sup>th</sup> Century)**

What Sort of People Ought to Pray that Prayer that Was Given by the Lord. XXIV. Now, when you pray, be not as the hypocrites; but as the Lord has appointed us in the Gospel, so pray: Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be Your name; Your kingdom come; Your will be done, as in heaven, so on earth; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Yours is the kingdom for ever. Amen. Pray thus thrice in a day,

- All the way into the fourth century church leaders were teaching Believers to pray the Lord’s prayer as a common form of prayer taught by Jesus Christ to His disciples.

Constitutions, Apostolic, late-4th-century compilation...The whole is a valuable primary source on early church history and practice. Ref; The Columbia Electronic Encyclopedia, 6th ed. Copyright © 2007, Columbia University Press. All rights reserved.

### **5) USING THE NAME OF JESUS IN PRAYER**

#### **a) Using the name of Jesus in prayer to do His works and glorify God**

John 14:12-14 “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater *works* than these he will do, because I go to My Father. <sup>13</sup> And \_\_\_\_\_ you ask in My, \_\_\_\_\_ that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> If you ask anything in My name, I will do *it*.

- Jesus said we could use His name in prayer to the Father and we would get the answer to anything we ask as it relates to His works and glorifies God.

#### **b) Using the name of Jesus in prayer to the Father for all things**

John 16:23-24 “And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever

you ask the Father in My name He will give you. <sup>24</sup> Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

We can pray to the Father in Jesus name and the Father will grant our petitions!

The secret of the believers's authority in prayer is in the name of Jesus. As the Father has committed all power to the Son, so the Son commits all power to those who trust in Him. It is the power of His name – the power of His authority. Christ repeats the promise over and over. Prayer that Moves Mountains by Gordon Lindsay pg. 86

## **6) PRAYER WAS PREIMENENT IN THE APOSTLES AND THE EARLY CHURCH**

Acts 1:14, 2:1-4, 2:42, 4:31, 6:4

Acts 6:4 but we will give ourselves \_\_\_\_\_ to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”

THE apostles knew the necessity and worth of prayer to their ministry. They knew that their high commission as apostles, instead of relieving them from the necessity of prayer, committed them to it by a more urgent need; so that they were exceedingly jealous else some other important work should exhaust their time and prevent their praying as they ought; so they appointed laymen to look after the delicate and engrossing duties of ministering to the poor, that they (the apostles) might, unhindered, "give themselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word." Prayer is put first, and their relation to prayer is put most strongly -- "give themselves to it," making a business of it, surrendering themselves to praying, putting fervor, urgency, perseverance, and time in it.

EM Bounds – Power through Prayer Chapter 17

PRAYER MARKS SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP

[http://www.biblebelievers.com/em\\_bounds/em-bounds\\_ch17](http://www.biblebelievers.com/em_bounds/em-bounds_ch17)

## **ANSWERS**

Page – 1 Yes, Teach, Today

Page – 2 Teaching, All, Otherwise, Yes

Page – 3 Whatever, Name

Page – 4 Continually