

# Using the Lord's Prayer as a pattern for your own prayer

Use each section as a launching point to focus on areas of prayer.

*"Whenever you pray, say..." Luke 11:2*

## 1. PRAISE

*Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,*

- Invoke the sanctifying name of God
- Recognize God for who he is
- Praise him as our loving heavenly Father – *Abba* – the God who is close and who cares
- Praise him for his holiness ("hallowedness")
- Perhaps you'll want to pray through some of God's other attributes

## 2. AGENDA

*...your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.*

- Pray for God's will to come about in whatever the pressing situations are
- Pray for the government and all who are in leadership – presidents and governors, local leaders, that they might be sensitive to God's kingdom agenda
- Pray for the church as the primary agents of God's kingdom that we might be faithful to our mission
- Pray for the spread of God's kingdom through mission work and personal evangelism
- Pray for missionaries and church leaders
- Pray for the justice and peace that reflect the presence of God's kingdom – his reign
- Pray for people in your own circle of family and friends who need to welcome Jesus and his agenda into their lives
- Pray for those who are struggling with health or other personal issues – that God's will would be done in the situation and that his kingdom would be advanced through it
- Pray for the second coming of Jesus

## 3. PROVISION

*Give us today our daily bread.*

- Ask God to provide those things that you need to get through the day – food, water, home, finances
- Ask God to provide spiritual bread – a Word from him that would encourage you for the day
- "OUR daily bread" – pray for the basic needs of others – especially those who seem to be without – for those in our community and those abroad who are going hungry
- In asking give thanks for his provision
- In asking be open to the fact that God might be calling you to help provide for the daily needs of others

## 4. FORGIVENESS

*Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.*

- Examine your life and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal your own sinful attitudes and actions – seek God's forgiveness
- Thank God for the forgiveness that is ours through the cross and the resurrection of Christ Jesus
- Repent of the things which need to be forgiven – that is, set a new course, a new direction
- Pray for those who have sinned against you – forgive them and ask God to forgive them – whether or not those people recognize their need for forgiveness
- Pray for the people who have made themselves enemies – either of you personally or your people and country

## 5. PROTECTION

*Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.*

- Ask God to get you and others through the tough times
- Pray for protection from all that is evil – whether it be spirits or attitudes or political powers
- Pray that your salvation would actually be made even more sure through the times of trial
- Pray for the safety of those in the hotspots (wars, earthquakes, famines, etc) around the world
- Ask God to protect the faith of those who are persecuted because of their faith in Christ

## 6. DOXOLOGY

*For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.*

- While not a part of the original prayer in the New Testament this is a good way to conclude your prayer – with a word of praise that summarizes all that has been spoken