

BLESSED

THE PRAYER OF A FISHER OF MEN

Matthew 6:5-15

⁵ “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.

⁶ 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.

⁷ And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words.

⁸ Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him.

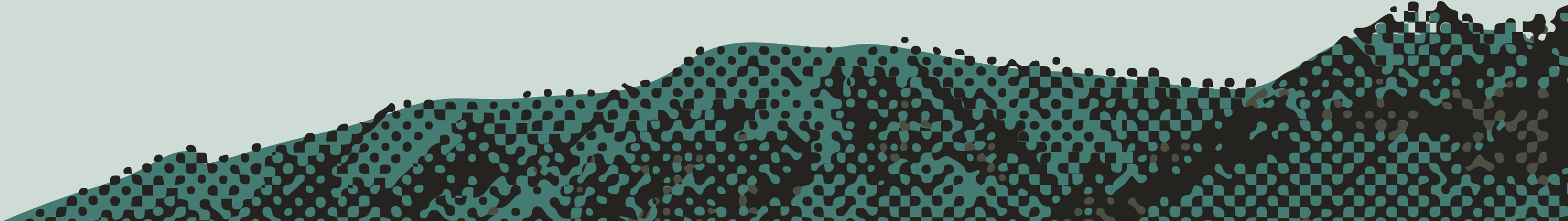
V. 5 – Hypocrites and Rewards

Hypocrites – Two Faced People

- Say one thing and do another

Pray to God – So others can see...

Their desire (reward) was to be seen by others...

- They got what they were wanting!**
 - Their reward was for selfish gain!**
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V.6 –Secret Place and Rewards


Secret Place – “Closet” or a “Specific Place”

- **This is a metaphor for your life (Heart)**
 - **This is a literal setting (Solitude & Focus)**
 - **Away from distractions & attention**
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The “reward” is NOT whatever you want...

The reward is relationship with God!

“I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word, that they may all be one, just as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You have sent Me.” – John 17:20-21



V. 7 & 8 – Babbling and God Knows

It is NOT about the quantity of your prayer

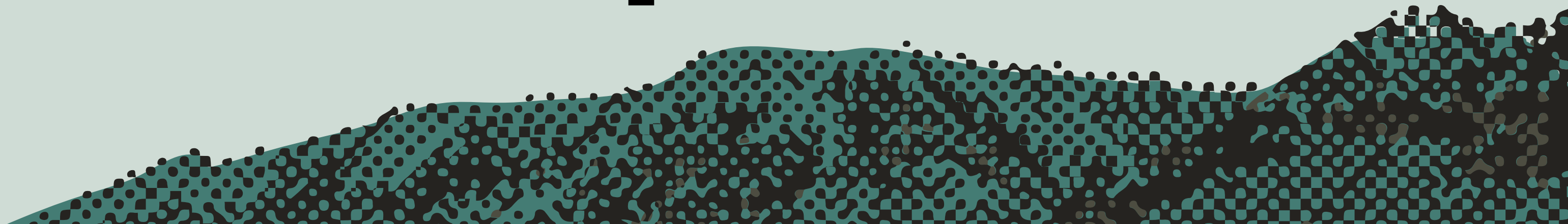
- Not about time, words, religious statements...**
 - It is about the HEART!**
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God knows your prayer

God knows your heart

God knows your motive

... God wants a relationship with YOU!



**⁹ “This, then, is how you should pray:
‘Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be
Your Name,**

**¹⁰ Your Kingdom come, Your Will be done,
on Earth as it is in Heaven.**

¹¹ Give us today our daily bread.

**¹² And forgive us our debts, as we also
have forgiven our debtors.**

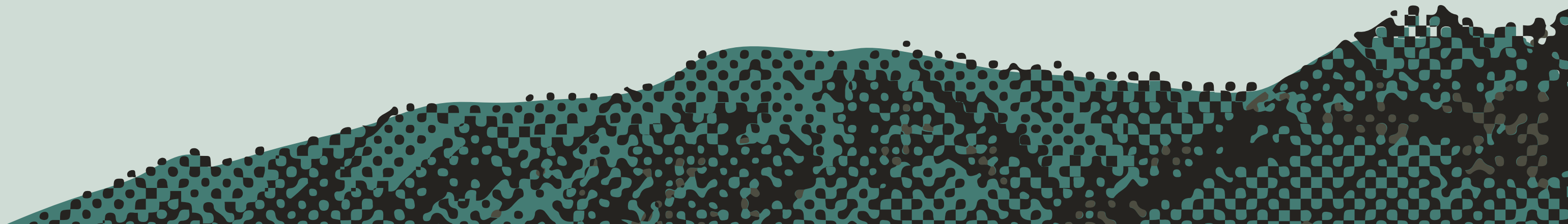
**¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but
deliver us from the evil one**

V. 9 & 10 – Template or Model

– His Kingdom, Authority, & Will

When you pray – Pray “like this..” or “in this way..”
- Heart Posture – NOT – Heady Points –

Our Father – Family & Relational
Your Kingdom Come – Expectant Yearning for Christ
Your Will Be Done – Obedience to God!



V. 11-13 - Daily, Past, and Future

Daily Bread – What you need the **Present day!**

- “Mana” (What is it?) – Exodus 16

Forgive our debts – *Our **Past selfishness toward God***

... *As* ...

We forgive our debtors – *Others **Past selfishness toward us***

Lead us NOT into Temptation – *Our **Future weakness to Sin***

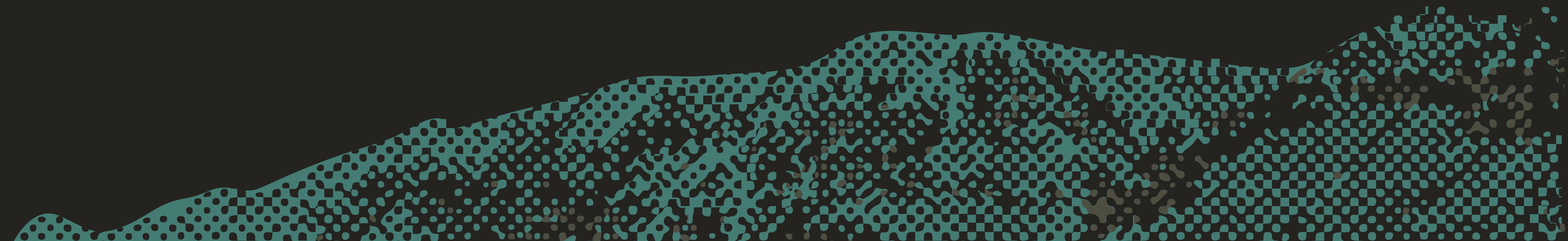
... *But* ...

Deliver us from evil– *His **Future promise over Sin***



14 For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your Heavenly Father will also forgive you.

15 But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.



V.14 & 15 – Conditional Statements

“If ... Then” – Conditional Statement

- *“If anyone says, ‘I love God,’ and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.” – 1 John 4:20*

Relational Forgiveness v. Eternal Forgiveness

- *“Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.” – Ephesians 4:32*



**“You cannot afford to
be too busy to pray.”**

- Billy Graham

