

## How to Pray in Power Part 3: The Power of Worship in Prayer

September 3, 2023

Matthew 6:9-10

Better named the Disciple's Prayer in Matt. 6, the Lord's Prayer would better be found in John 17. Matt. 6:9 references Is. 29:22-23 and Ez. 36:22-23. Jesus is the Prophet of Deut. 18:15-19 whose words would be heard.

What worship is not: seeking a mystical, emotional experience. Job's example of worship in sack cloth and ashes not something that would conform to evangelical forms today.

What worship is: a response to God by redeemed people for His existence, character, and mercy to us through Christ. It is giving to God all that is due and owed to His name and person. V9 starts with humility before the Lord. **What declarations and requests are found in V9-10?**

- 1) **Declare Your Gospel Relationship with God**: Jesus mentions "My Father," and "our Father," numerous times in Matthew. God is the Father of those who believe in Christ. According to 1 John 3:10 people are either a child of God, they practice righteousness, or a child of Satan, those that practice unrighteousness. Believers are dependent on Christ, Matt. 11:27. Matt. 5:9, peacemakers are sons of God. Matt. 5:44-45, those that love their enemies are sons of God. God's children demonstrate His character. How do we declare our Gospel relationship? Never miss a day of thanking God for the cross of Christ, Jesus' gift of grace, of the Spirit's regeneration of our souls, of God's plan to bring grace to us, and of God saving us from our depravity (Rom. 3:9-18).
- 2) **Declare Your Intimacy with God**: I can address Jesus' Father as my Father. God is with us. He is near us. We are safe in His hands. We have numerous brothers and sisters. How do we declare our intimacy with God? Speak to Him as a loving Father. Accept and be thankful for correction, His safety, security, and strength. God is the perfect Father.
- 3) **Declare Your Awe of God**: give the utmost thought to His holiness, otherness, and His place in Heaven. He is near, yet He dwells in unapproachable light. He is near, yet invisible and high above all. He is beyond me, transcendent, a God of wrath and love. 1 Kings 8:27, He is unfathomable and can't be contained or reduced. Eccl. 12:13, we are to fear God and keep His commandments.
  - a. **Where do we get theological language to describe God?** The Psalms is packed full. Ps. 1:6, He is all-knowing. Ps. 2:5, He is terrifying to the rebellious. Ps. 3:3, He is a shield. Ps. 4:4, we tremble in our thoughts of Him. Ps. 5:2, He is King.
- 1) **Request for Personal Holiness**, V9, for obedience, sanctification, holiness. "Hallowed" is a verb, to mean "make your name be Holy." Our lives are to demonstrate the holiness of God as we are transformed (Rom. 12:1-2) and our life demonstrates obedience and holiness to the Word of God. First in prayer, we confess our sins and reduce ourselves and lift high the name of God. We ask God to reveal our idols to us. We ask God the parts of our lives that don't demonstrate that God is holy, and we remove them.
- 2) **Request Worldwide Holiness**: In V13, we proclaim His kingdom to come. In V9, our prayer is that our lives show to others the holiness of God. Our marriages, families, and our worship demonstrates that God is holy, and His kingdom is coming. We desire for others to see God's holiness and be made holy. God is bringing many to salvation. It is also a call for God to make the world holy and rid it of wickedness and take vengeance on evildoers. Ez. 36:22-23, the Lord will do it for His name's sake and those who have profaned His name. God's name will be hallowed and His glory will fill the earth.

## **Further Discussion and Application**

How has our worship to God become less self-centered and more God centered as we've grown in Christ? What were some of the things the Lord taught us about or worship to Him?

In Psalm 96 V1-3, what are we to declare? How do we do that? What are God's people doing? What are worshippers of Yahweh telling the nations?

In Psalm 96, V4-6, what is revealed to the world in this passage? What should we understand about the idols and the place of true beauty and strength? Why is God's sanctuary a strong and beautiful place?

In Psalm 96, V7-9, what does God deserve from His people? What is God commanding? What follows the one who sees God is His beauty and holiness?

In Psalm 96, V10, what will describe Christ's coming kingdom? What will be the result of His judgements, righteousness, and glory? Why is that unlike any before or that will ever be?

In Psalm 96, V11-12, what is the result of a Christ ruled kingdom, a land where justice and righteousness stand? What is God's creation doing?

In Psalm 96, V13, what is the standard by which the world will be judged? Is this test an open book test? What truth and knowledge do we need to be able to ace this test? How do we pass it? How do we prepare for it? How long do we continue our study of it? What is the reward for trusting in Yahweh?