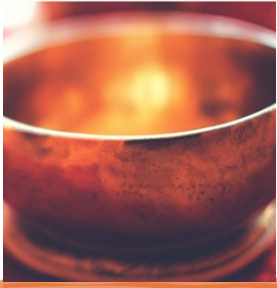




# Lord, Teach Us to Pray

Learning how to pray so that our  
prayers might be golden bowls full  
of incense before God's Throne.  
(Luke 11:1-13; Revelation 5:8)



# Lesson 4 – God’s Priorities in Our Prayers

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Sunday School Series: Lord, Teach Us to Pray – Luke 11:1-13

## References

*How to Pray* – RA Torrey ([Online](#))

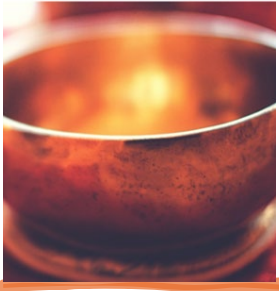
*The Power of Prayer in a Believer’s Life* – Charles Spurgeon ([Online](#))

*Expositional Commentary on the Sermon on the Mount* – James Boice

*Studies in the Sermon on the Mount* – D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

## Recommended for Further Study

*With Christ in the School of Prayer* and *The Believer’s Prayer Life*  
by Andrew Murray



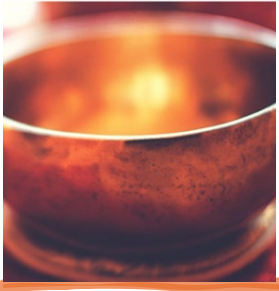
## Lesson 4 – God’s Priorities

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God’s priorities in our prayers include His name and His kingdom.

Luke 11:1 And it happened that while Jesus was praying in a certain place, after He had finished, one of His disciples said to Him, “Lord, teach us to pray just as John also taught his disciples.” 2 And He said to them, “When you pray, say: ‘Father, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come.’”

1 Kings 9:1 Now it happened when Solomon had completed building the house of Yahweh, and the king’s house, and all that Solomon desired to do, 2 that Yahweh appeared to Solomon a second time, as He had appeared to him at Gibeon. 3 And Yahweh said to him, “I have heard your prayer and your supplication, which you have made before Me; I have set apart as holy this house which you have built by putting My name there forever, and My eyes and My heart will be there perpetually.



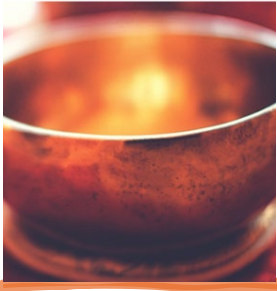
## Lesson 4 – God’s Priorities

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After Jesus identifies God as the recipient of all of our prayers, He immediately moves into stating God’s priorities in our prayers. The first of these priorities is the honor and glory of His name. We know we are to pray to God, but do we really realize we are praying TO GOD?

Andrew Murray wrote, “There is something here that strikes us at once. While we ordinarily first bring our own needs to God in prayer, and then think of what belongs to God and His interests, the Master reverses the order. First, “*Thy name, Thy kingdom, Thy will*; then give *us*, lead *us*, deliver *us*. The lesson is of more importance than we think. In true worship the Father must be first, must be all. The sooner I learn to forget myself in the desire that He may be glorified, the richer will the blessing be that prayer will bring to myself. No one ever loses by what he sacrifices for the Father.” – *With Christ in the School of Prayer*, pg. 28





## Lesson 4 – God’s Priorities

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“Hallowed be Your name.” Our prayers must begin with Adoration.

While usually the term “**hallowed**” means “to consecrate” or “set apart” for God’s use, there is only one other use in Scripture where this word is used of God.

1 Peter 3:15 but **sanctify** Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and fear...

Peter means, “Give God the place in your heart that He deserves. In the Lord’s prayer, the scope of God’s rule is much broader. If I were to rephrase this first part of the Lord’s Prayer, I would say, ‘My Father in heaven, my first desire is that in everything you might have the preeminence.’” - James Boice, pg. 173.



# Lesson 4 – God’s Priorities

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How do we hallow the name of God? How do we give Him the position of preeminence that is rightfully His?

We start by knowing the names of God! Each of His names tells us more about Him – about His character and nature, about Who He is.

What are some of the names of God?

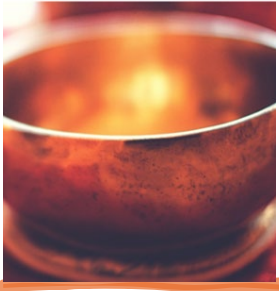
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## Lesson 4 – God’s Priorities

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His names remind us that there is no one like Him.

“What more can we say of our God? He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. He is the source of our life, the sustainer of life, He is life itself. He is the Light of the World, the Bread of Life, the Good Shepherd. He is the Lord of Hosts. He is the King of kings. He is the Faithful One. He is love. He is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, of Moses, David, Isaiah, Peter, James, John, Timothy, Apollos, and Paul. And He is not only their God, He is my God. Is He your God?” – James Boice, pg. 176.

Our desire in prayer should be that as we know Him, we are able to make His name known! Not just telling people about Him, but testifying to Who He is and what He has done to the glory of His own name.



## Lesson 4 – God’s Priorities

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Psalm 8:1 O Yahweh, our Lord, How majestic is Your name in all the earth, Who displays Your splendor above the heavens!

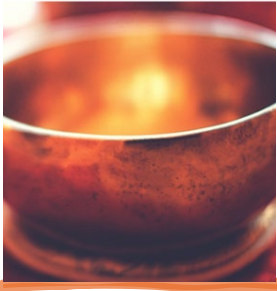
Psalm 9:2 I will be glad and exult in You; I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High.

Psalm 44:8 In God we have boasted all day long, And we will give thanks to Your name forever.

Psalm 63:4 Thus I will bless You as long as I live; I will lift up my hands in Your name.

Psalm 79:9 Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of Your name; And deliver us and atone for our sins for Your name’s sake.





## Lesson 4 – God’s Priorities

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Psalm 83:18 That they may know that You alone—Your name is Yahweh— Are the Most High over all the earth.

Psalm 86:2 I will give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with all my heart, And will glorify Your name forever.

Psalm 99:3 Let them praise Your great and awesome name; Holy is He.

Psalm 102:15 So the nations will fear the name of Yahweh And all the kings of the earth Your glory.

Psalm 115:1 Not to us, O Yahweh, not to us, But to Your name give glory Because of Your lovingkindness, because of Your truth.



## Lesson 4 – God’s Priorities

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“Your Kingdom come.”

In some instances, we see and understand that God’s kingdom has always been, for He has always ruled as sovereign Lord in His creation. But we also see John and Jesus announcing that “the kingdom is at hand,” that is, it is coming, it is near.

Jesus, in the upper room with His disciples, also discloses that the Kingdom is to come. Matthew 26:27 And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; 28 for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins. 29 But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father’s kingdom.”

So it is, it is here, and it is coming.



## Lesson 4 – God’s Priorities

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The Kingdom of God transcends temporal concepts – past, present, future.

Since it is God’s Kingdom, it is infinitely superior to any earthly kingdom. The kingdoms of this world rise and fall, but God reigns through and over it all.

We must understand then that the order of these first two petitions is a logical order. “They follow one another by a kind of inevitable, divine necessity. We began by asking that the name of God may be hallowed amongst men. But the moment we pray that prayer we are reminded of the fact that His name is not hallowed thus. At once the question arises, ‘Why do not all men bow before the sacred name? Why is not every man on this earth concerned about humbling himself now in the presence of God, and worshipping Him and using every moment in adoring Him and spreading forth His name?’ Why not? Because of sin, because there is another kingdom, the kingdom of Satan and of darkness. And there at once we are reminded of the very essence of the human problem and predicament.” – Lloyd-Jones, pg. 336-337



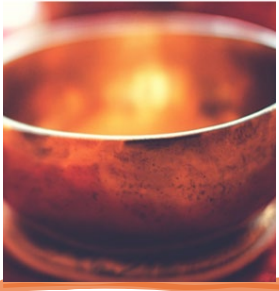
## Lesson 4 – God’s Priorities

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“God has been graciously pleased to reveal from the very dawn of history that He is yet going to establish His kingdom in this world of time and He is going to assert Himself and turn this world and all of its kingdoms into His own glorious kingdom.” – Lloyd-Jones, pg. 337

The kingdom of God means the reign of God. Jesus is building that kingdom in and through His church now and will bring it to completion when every enemy has been defeated.

1 Cor. 15:24 Then comes the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power. 25 For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. 26 The last enemy to be abolished is death. 27 For He has put all things in subjection under His feet. But when He says, “All things are put in subjection,” it is evident that He is excepted who put all things in subjection to Him. 28 And when all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself also will be subjected to the One who subjected all things to Him, so that God may be all in all.



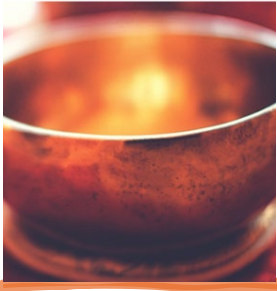
## Lesson 4 – God’s Priorities

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To pray, therefore, “Your kingdom come,” is to pray for Christ to return, that is, praying and “looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God.” (2 Peter 3:12).

It is a prayer in anticipation of the day “when all sin and evil and wrong and everything that is opposed to God shall finally have been routed. It means that we should have longings in our hearts for the time when the Lord will come back again, when all that is opposed to Him shall be cast into the lake of burning, and the kingdoms of this world shall have become the kingdoms of our God and of His Christ.” – Lloyd-Jones, pg. 338





## Lesson 4 – God’s Priorities

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If we could put these two petitions to music, they would sound very much like this:

“For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! The kingdom of this world is  
become the kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ, and of His Christ; And He  
shall reign for ever and ever, King of kings, and Lord of lords. King of kings, and  
Lord of lords. King of kings, and Lord of lords, and Lord of lords, and He shall  
reign, and He shall reign for ever and ever, for ever and ever, Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah!”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IUZEtVbJT5c>