

SEEKING HIM

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Sunday, January 8, 2023

Luke 11:1-2

Spiros Zodhiates once said, "Prayer is a mystery. We don't know how it works, but we know that it does." The disciples were greatly impacted by the prayer life of Jesus. He modeled the practice of prayer, seeking the Father. Studying the life of Jesus, we see 17 references to His active prayer life. They can be grouped into four major headings:

1. His prayers at great events of His life –

- a) Baptism [Luke 3:21](#)
- b) Choice of the Twelve [Luke 6:12](#)
- c) Confession of His messiahship at Caesarea Philippi [Luke 9:18](#)
- d) Transfiguration [Luke 22:30-46](#)
- e) Gethsemane [Luke 22:39-46](#)
- f) On the cross [Luke 23:46](#)

2. His prayers in the course of His ministry –

- a) Conflict w/ecclesiastical authorities [Luke 5:16](#)
- b) Before big decisions [Luke 6:12](#)
- c) Before giving the Lord's Prayer [Luke 11:1](#)
- d) Greeks came to Him [John 12:27ff](#)
- e) After feeding 5000 [Mark 6:46](#)

3. His prayers at His miracles –

- a) Healing multitudes [Mark 1:35](#)
- b) Feeding 5000 [Mark 6:41](#)
- c) Healing deaf mute [Mark 7:34](#)
- d) Raising Lazarus [John 11:41](#)

4. His prayers for others -

- a) For the Eleven [John 17:6-19](#)
- b) The whole church [John 17:20-26](#)
- c) Those who nailed Him to the cross [Luke 23:34](#)
- d) For Peter [Luke 22:32](#)

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KEY THOUGHT:

From Jesus, we learn that to seek the Father, you must seek Him in prayer.

Hebrews 7:25 (NASB95) Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

I. Our approach - RELATIONSHIP

Father – Our Father. Jesus used a child’s word for father, which appears also in Romans 8:15. It is used by modern Hebrews within the family circle, and implies familiarity based on love. God is the Father of all who receive Christ (John 1:12).

The first recorded sentence of Jesus (Luke 2:49) and that which was probably His last (Luke 23:46) both contain the name Father.

II. Our attitude - Spiritual respect – posture in our hearts and in our body

Hallowed be Your name - “The first petition concerns the honor of God, not the needs of the suppliant. The holiness of God must not be marred by the act of the one praying.”

Hallowed comes from the root word “hagios” which means holy. The basic meaning is different or separate. Let God’s name be given a position which is absolutely unique.

Pray: “Enable us to give to Thee the unique place which Thy nature and character deserve and demand.”

Two primary meanings of hallowed:

1. to make an ordinary thing extraordinary
2. to treat someone or something as sacred

Psalm 9:10 (NASB95) And those who know Your name will put their trust in You, for You, O Lord, have not forsaken those who seek You.

TO RECOGNIZE – what does it mean to recognize

TO RESPECT – what does it mean to respect

TO REVERE – what does it mean to show reverence

(1 Samuel 18:30; Exodus 34:5-7; Psalm 102:15; John 17:6)

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III. Our aspirations - Spiritual

Your kingdom come - The rule of God must become universally acknowledged.

1. Lord, I want Your kingdom to rule my life.
2. Lord, I wait for Your kingdom to reign.
3. Lord, I willingly surrender to Your kingdom agenda for my life.