

## **Church Planter Community** **Praying the Lord's Prayer**

*A few thoughts on the way to praying the Lord's way:*

1. We need to be taught by Jesus how to pray His way.
2. It takes time, ministry, and humility for a disciple to ask his Master to teach him how to pray.
3. God wants to teach us how to pray.
4. Not just any prayer will do: Christ has given us the priorities of His Kingdom as a pattern for prayer.
5. We become what we pray, so let's learn to pray His way.
6. The Lord's Prayer helps us connect the Gospel to prayer and prayer to mission, which we must do.
7. Above all we must pray. Here we begin. Here we advance. Here we return.

*All the priorities of heaven and of Christ's coming kingdom are contained in the petitions of this prayer:*

### **Petition**

*Our father in heaven*

### **Priority**

This is the Kingdom priority of the gospel and sonship.  
Before all else we are the legitimate children of God and rightful heirs of his kingdom.

*Hallowed be your name*

This is the Kingdom priority of worship.  
He is the Lord. He is to be revered and obeyed and worshipped before all and in all we do.

*Your kingdom come*

This is the Kingdom priority of evangelism.  
His coming kingdom is surprisingly evidenced in seeing sinners convicted of coming judgment and Christ's atonement.

*Your will be done on earth  
As it is in heaven...*

This is the Kingdom priority of mercy and social justice.  
As with Christ, so with the follower — carrying out and experiencing healing and deliverance in church and society.

*Give us this day our daily bread*

This is the Kingdom priority of contentment and generosity.  
For a disciple, everything we have comes from and belongs to Christ. We take only what we need and give the rest away.

*Forgive us our debts  
As we forgive our debtors*

This is the Kingdom priority of redemptive community.  
Only as we bear one another's burdens will we fulfill the law of Christ and discover the joy of our common life.

*Lead us not into temptation  
But deliver us from evil*

This is the Kingdom priority of spiritual warfare.  
The Christian life is warfare. The enemy will only be defended against or defeated when the Gospel and the mission are connected to prayer.

*Yours is the kingdom, power,  
And glory forever*

This is the Kingdom priority of God's sovereignty.  
From beginning to end, all of life and all our ministry is not about us: it is about our God. We must be God-centered.