

FORGIVE US OUR SINS

Luke 11:4 (p. 1614)

March 22, 2020

*[Jesus] said to them, "When you pray, say:
'Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us.
And lead us not into temptation.'* "

Luke 11:2-4

WWJPF?

*One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him,
"Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples."*

Luke 11:1

*"if your brother sins, rebuke him. If he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times comes back
to you and says, 'I repent,' forgive him. The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith."*

Luke 23:34

Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

Luke 23:34

1) Jesus COMMANDS and MODELS

2) Forgiveness reflects THE SEEKING HEART OF GOD

The fifth petition

"Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us."

Luke 11:4

General Oglethorpe to John Wesley: "I never forgive."

Wesley to General Oglethorpe: "Then I hope, Sir, you never sin."

Story summarized from Earl Palmer's *The Enormous Exception*

1) Forgiveness recognizes MY UNWORTHINESS

2) Forgiveness is the first evidence of GRACE → IT IS RELATIONAL

Becoming the answer to this prayer

¹² Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved,
clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

¹³ Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances
you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

¹⁴ And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.
Colossians 3:13 (p. 1835)

1) Forgiveness has no LIMITS

but RECONCILIATION does!

2) Forgiveness is PROACTIVE (see Romans 14-15)

3) Forgiveness is hardest when I am CLOSEST

Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Day 51

Q 126. What does the fifth petition mean?

A. "Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors" means:

Because of Christ's blood, do not hold against us, poor sinners that we are,
any of the sins we do or the evil that constantly clings to us.¹

Forgive us just as we are fully determined, as evidence of your grace in us,
to forgive our neighbors.²

¹ Ps. 51:1-7; 143:2; Rom. 8:1; 1 John 2:1-2

² Matt. 6:14-15; 18:21-35

Luther's Shorter Catechism

And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

What does this mean? We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look at our sins, or deny our prayer because of them. We are neither worthy of the things for which we pray, nor have we deserved them, but we ask that He would give them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will sincerely forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us.

The Lord's Prayer, Luke 11:2-4

Father,

hallowed be your name, your kingdom come.

Give us each day our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins,

for we also forgive everyone who sins against us.

And lead us not into temptation.

Resources

Spurgeon's sermon on forgiveness in Colossians 3:13 at

<https://www.ccel.org/ccel/spurgeon/sermons31.xxvi.html>

John Calvin's comments on "your kingdom come" at <https://www.monergism.com/thy-kingdom-come-0>

Eric Raymond's comments at <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/erik-raymond/mean-pray-thy-kingdom-come/>

Michael Horton's article at <https://www.monergism.com/thy-kingdom-come-0>

Allstair Begg's sermon at <https://www.truthforlife.org>

</resources/sermon/give-us-each-day/>

Greg Anderson's *Cancer and the Lord's Prayer* at

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/762254.Cancer_and_The_Lord_s_Prayer

Deffinbaugh's "Teach Us to Pray" message at <https://bible.org/seriespage/38-teach-us-pray-luke-111-13>

Augustine on the Lord's Prayer at <https://archive.org/details>

</sermonsselecte16augu/page/90/mode/2up>

Horatio Bonar's "How Much More" at <http://grace->

ebooks.com/library/Horatius%20Bonar/HB_Light%20%26%20Truth%20Gospels.pdf

I like J. C. Ryle's short commentary on the Lord's Prayer at <https://www.gracegems.org/Ryle/111.html>

Keathley's "Principles of Prayer" at <https://bible.org/article/principles-prayer-luke-11>

The Lord's Prayer

Response based on the Heidelberg Catechism

Q & A 120-129

Our Father

Awaken in us at the very beginning of our prayer what should be basic to our lives— a childlike reverence and trust that through Christ You have become our Father, and that just as our parents do not refuse us the things of this life, even less will You, our Father, refuse to give us what we ask in faith.

In heaven

Teach us not to think of Your heavenly majesty as something earthly, and to expect everything needed for body and soul from Your almighty power.

Hallowed be your name

Help us to truly know You, to honor, glorify, and praise You for all your works and for all that shines forth from them: Your almighty power, wisdom, kindness, justice, mercy, and truth. Help us to direct all our living—what we think, say, and do— so that Your name will never be blasphemed because of us but always honored and praised.

Your kingdom come

Rule us by Your Word and Spirit in such a way that more and more we submit to You. Preserve your church and make it grow. Destroy the devil's work; destroy every force which revolts against You and every conspiracy against Your holy Word. Do this until Your kingdom fully comes, when You will be all in all.

Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven

Help us and all people to reject our own wills and to obey Your will without any back talk. Your will alone is good. Help us one and all to carry out the work we are called to, as willingly and faithfully as the angels in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread

Do take care of all our physical needs so that we come to know that You are the only source of everything good, and that neither our work and worry nor Your gifts can do us any good without Your blessing. And so help us to give up our trust in creatures and trust in You alone.

Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors

Because of Christ's blood, do not hold against us, poor sinners that we are, any of the sins we do or the evil that constantly clings to us. Forgive us just as we are fully determined, as evidence of Your grace in us, to forgive our neighbors.

And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one

By ourselves we are too weak to hold our own even for a moment. And our sworn enemies—the devil, the world, and our own flesh—never stop attacking us. And so, Lord, uphold us and make us strong with the strength of your Holy Spirit, so that we may not go down to defeat in this spiritual struggle, but may firmly resist our enemies until we finally win the complete victory.

For the kingdom and the power and the glory are yours forever

We have made all these petitions of You because, as our all-powerful king, You are both willing and able to give us all that is good; and because Your holy name, and not we ourselves, should receive all the praise, forever.

Amen

This shall truly and surely be!
It is even more sure that You listen to our prayer than that we really desire what we pray for.

