

THE FATHER'S NAME

Luke 11:1-2 (p. 1613)

March 1, 2020

*He said to them, "When you pray, say:
'Father, hallowed by your name'"*

Luke 11:1-2

The important question

*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

Q 116. Why do Christians need to pray?

A. Because prayer is the most important part of the thankfulness God requires of us.

And also because God gives his grace and Holy Spirit only to those who pray continually and groan inwardly,
asking God for these gifts and thanking God for them.

Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Day 45

- 1) Prayer is MOST important
- 2) MODEL and LITURGY
- 3) Key question: What is driving me to learn how to pray?

The Father's name

"Father, hallowed be your name."

Luke 11:2

Not to us, O Lord, not to us but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness.

Psalm 115:1

- 1) Father prayer is **CHILDLIKE** → **TRUSTING AND REVERENT**
- 2) The Father's name is his **"FLAG"** → **PERFECTION OF HIS CHARACTER AND WORK**
- 3) Prayer starts with attention to **GOD**

Becoming the answer to this prayer

But in your heart set apart Christ as Lord

1 Peter 3:15 (p. 1890)

- 1) THIS PRAYER IS FOR ME , not the world
- 2) Tells me about MY HEART
- 3) The Father's holiness is my MOTIVATION

Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Days 46 and 47

Q 120. Why did Christ command us to call God "our Father"?

A. To awaken in us at the very beginning of our prayer what should be basic to our prayer— a childlike reverence and trust that through Christ God has become our Father,

and that just as our parents do not refuse us the things of this life, even less will God our Father refuse to give us what we ask in faith.¹

¹ Matt. 7:9-11; Luke 11:11-13

Q 121. Why the words "in heaven"?

A. These words teach us not to think of God's heavenly majesty as something earthly,¹ and to expect everything needed for body and soul from God's almighty power.²

¹ Jer. 23:23-24; Acts 17:24-25 ² Matt. 6:25-34; Rom. 8:31-32

Q 122. What does the first petition mean?

A. "Hallowed be your name" means:

Help us to truly know you,¹ 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.²

And it means:

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.³

¹ Jer. 9:23-24; 31:33-34; Matt. 16:17; John 17:3

² Ex. 34:5-8; Ps. 145; Jer. 32:16-20; Luke 1:46-55, 68-75; Rom. 11:33-36

³ Ps. 115:1; Matt. 5:16

Resources for study

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](https://archive.org/details/sermonsonselecte16augu/page/90/mode/2up)

[/sermonsonselecte16augu/page/90/mode/2up](https://archive.org/details/sermonsonselecte16augu/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](http://grace-ebooks.com/library/Horatius%20Bonar/HB_Light%20%26%20Truth%20Gospels.pdf)

Rick Monday saving the flag: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hbr1hNp-nI4>

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

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