
TEACH US TO PRAY | WEEK three

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU'RE TALKING TO

Developing a new view of God is foundational to a life of prayer. We must begin to purify and elevate our view of God until it is once again worthy of Him.

What do you secretly believe about God? Who do you secretly believe God to be?

Hebrews 11:6

*"...for he who comes to God must believe that He is,
and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."*

We must believe that He is who He says He is and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

He is the everlasting Father, the everlasting God, and the inexhaustible treasure house of all wisdom, power, love, goodness, kindness, grace, righteousness, and justice. He is the One Who is from of old, and has no limits to His resources.

The devil is the father of lies, and he has been working overtime to corrupt, pervert, and distort our views about who God is through parent relationships, authority figures, and other experiences in our lives that make us secretly believe God to be a certain way.

God is not a middle-class working dad with 50 billion children, where although generous in spirit, He's limited in His resources. God is rich in love, power, goodness, and wisdom. He is the most generous giver you will ever meet. He has no limits in His wisdom and love. He is the unchangeable rock from everlasting.

Yet Jesus asks His disciples in Matt. 16:15, *"Who do you say that I am?"* Jesus' disciple's experience of the realities of God's kingdom hinged on who they believed Jesus was. He's not just another prophet, or a good man. He is the Son of the living God—*Yahweh in the flesh*.

What do you secretly believe about God the Father, and God the Son? What new views of God do you need to adopt to view His as He truly is?

Prayer

Lord Jesus, I ask for the spirit of revelation in the knowledge of God. Help me change the environment of my thought life. Wash over me. Renew me. Uproot and faulty foundations, tear down strongholds, and remove all arguments until I see You clearly and believe You fully.

In Jesus' Name I pray—Amen.

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OUR HEAVENLY FATHER

When we think about prayer, we think about a list; but when God thinks about prayer, He thinks about a person. Think about it, Jesus' Father is now our Father and we've been given access to places where angels fear to tread.

Paul calls Him the Father of glory. James calls Him the Father of lights. The writer of Hebrews calls Him the Father of spirits. Jesus calls Him our Father who art in heaven. John calls Him—*holy*.

In Revelation John sees a door standing open in heaven and hears a voice calling out, "*Come up here and I will show you things.*" He sees Jesus surrounded by a bright diamond light, a raging fire, and an emerald rainbow. He is beautiful, He is burning, and He is the most kind and merciful person you will ever meet.

Although there is a real aristocracy in heaven, we as believers in Christ have been robed in righteousness, and given His throne, with crowns of glory. *We are the ruling class in heaven.*

The restoration of the prophetic spirit will cause lightings, thunder, and voices to begin to break out when the church finally awakens to her identity as the righteousness of God, sharing His throne, and crowned with His crowns.

Psalm 29:3-4

*The voice of the Lord is over the waters;
The God of glory thunders;
The Lord is over many waters.
The voice of the Lord is powerful;
The voice of the Lord is full of majesty.*

In Revelation 4 we discover a sea of glass with fires burning all around, while four creatures surround the throne. A lion, an eagle, an ox, and a man with eyes around and within them are shouting, "*Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God almighty, to Him who was, and is, and is to come.*"

Prayer

*Lord, these creatures have been with You in the same room, saying the same thing, and have barely scratched the surface of Your inexhaustible glory! Awaken the eyes of my heart that I would gaze upon You, and that the spirit of revelation would strike me, and that fresh proclamation would touch me. I have been called to gaze. I have been called to behold. You have called me to proclaim—"Our Father, Who art in heaven, **hallowed be thy Name...**"*

In Jesus' Name I pray—Amen.

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THE FATHER OF MERCIES

Ex. 34:5-7

Now the Lord descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the Lord. And the Lord passed before him and proclaimed, "The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin..."

If our Father is anything, He is approachable.

Luke 15:20 shows us a father who wastes everything upon the return of his prodigal son; a father who saw his son in his weakest and most vulnerable places.

- The Father sees you.
- The Father isn't angry or vindictive. He has compassion on you.
- The Father runs to you.
- The Father embraces you, kisses you, and puts a ring on your finger.
- The Father restores your inheritance all over again.

The Father is safe and will meet us in our weakest, most vulnerable areas. This message will bring you out of shame, guilt, and condemnation, and into a place of inheritance, acceptance, forgiveness, and authority.

What else does the story of the prodigal son reveal about the character of God? How has God fathered you in your weakest and most vulnerable areas? Have you allowed God access into the vulnerable places? If not, perhaps it's time to release your new views of the Father's heart full access. Let Him shine the light of His love on you.

John 13-14 shows us how Peter failed miserably. Yet Jesus completely restored him, commissioned him, and brought him back into the Father's heart. Jesus didn't treat him like a slave, an orphan, or even an illegitimate son. He told Peter, in essence, *"from now on you're going to live from inside the house. You're going to live from a place of free acceptance, free forgiveness, and free inheritance."*

Take a moment to consider Exodus 34:5-7, and Luke 15 and simply bask in the Father's love.

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

As God releases a revelation of His Fatherhood, He is also releasing a revelation of our sonship. As He is releasing revelation as of Himself as the bridegroom, He in-turn releases revelation of the church as the bride. As He is releasing a revelation of Himself as high priest, He is also teaching the church about her identity as a royal priesthood.

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Do you understand what it truly means to know you are the beloved of the Father? Not one who earns his acceptance, but who lives out of his acceptance. Our life of prayer flows out of our identity as beloved sons and daughters of God. We live, move, and breathe out of our identity in God. From this moment forward, always pray from your newfound position of beloved-ness.

Isaiah 62:2-4

*You shall be called by a new name,
Which the mouth of the Lord will name.
You shall also be a crown of glory
In the hand of the Lord,
And a royal diadem
In the hand of your God.
You shall no longer be termed Forsaken,
Nor shall your land any more be termed Desolate;
But you shall be called Hephzibah, and your land Beulah;
For the Lord delights in you,
And your land shall be married.
For as a young man marries a virgin,
So shall your sons marry you;
And as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,
So shall your God rejoice over you.
I have set watchmen on your walls, O Jerusalem;
They shall never hold their peace day or night.
You who make mention of the Lord, do not keep silent,
And give Him no rest till He establishes
And till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth.*

God is awakening intercessors in the earth with the foundational revelation of the Father's delight in them. God is declaring, *"I delight in you, I enjoy you, I take pleasure in you, and I rejoice over you."*

Do you see God as one who enjoys you? God doesn't just love you; He enjoys the journey of relationship with you. God's enjoyment of us empowers us every step of the way. It will break shame, guilt, wrong paradigms of trying to earn God's love, and a religious spirit off of you. You will begin to become settled in your beloved-ness.

Prayer

Jesus, I want to be one of those intercessors who are being released in the earth. I will not be silent until the plans and purposes of Your kingdom are established. Continue to reveal to me, secure me to, and mold me in my bridal identity. Establish me in my beloved-ness before You.

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Make me joyful in the house of prayer, happy, and consume me with Your glory. Fill me with the revelation of who You are, as I believe on Your promises and see them released in the earth.

In Jesus' Name I pray—Amen.

MEDITATION

This week we want to meditate on God as our Father as we come before Him in prayer.

Luke 15:20 gives us a five-fold revelation of the Father toward His son:

1. The Father sees you.
2. The Father isn't angry or vindictive. He has compassion on you.
3. The Father runs to you.
4. The Father embraces you, kisses you, and puts a ring on his finger.
5. The Father restores your inheritance all over again.

Write down these truths and consider them for your own life. Journal them, speak them back to God in prayer, and even sing about these truths if you want.