

## The Lord's Prayer – Listen to the words

### Overview

Often when we say our prayers – it is done from so much of a habit that we do not listen to what the words say. I encourage you next time to slow down – say the prayer slowly – and try to hear what it means.



Often we read in scriptures that we should pray like a child. This does not mean childishly but rather it means to pray with the faith and innocence of a child. An example of listening to the words is in The Lord's Prayer – the most perfect of all prayers - which follows.

**Our Father:** We are praying to “Our” Father not just anyone. Keep in mind that the Greek word for father is **Abba** and is closer to meaning daddy and was used by Jesus.

**Who art in Heaven:** Our Father is in Heaven but also with us. This means your **earthly** father loves you, but your **spiritual** Father who is in heaven loves you even more. He offers you only His love.

**Hallowed be thy name:** Our Father is holy as is His name. He is my Father and I wish to serve Him and to only glorify His name. In exchange for His love, you must respect Him.

**Thy Kingdom come:** The kingdom spoken of by Jesus is here right now. Our kingdom passes while Jesus' Kingdom does not pass away.

**Thy will be done:** We surrender to his love and compassion and wish only to do what he wants us to do. We know that without this Kingdom on earth we are like lost sheep.

**On earth as it is in heaven:** In the heaven the angels obey and adore You. Help us to be like the angels and make it possible for everything on earth to be as Holy as it is in heaven

**Give us our daily bread:** More than mere food, this means we ask for our every need. Give us, Lord, bread and food for our soul. Let us realize that our daily bread cannot be given to us without prayer.

**Forgive us our trespasses:** We ask God to forgive us for what we have done. Forgive us Lord our trespasses. Forgive us when we are not good and when we are not faithful.

**As we forgive those who trespass against us:** Listen carefully to your words as you are asking god to forgive you in the same way that you do for others. Forgive us so that we, too, may forgive those we were not capable of forgiving until now.

**And lead us not into temptation:** This is better translated to mean that we ask God to help us stay on the right path – not that he would lead us astray.

**But deliver us from evil:** We ask for help to resist Satan and his evil works. Lord, deliver us from hard trials. Lord, we are weak. Do not let our trials, O Lord, lead us to ruin.

**Amen:** Which simply means - that you believe what you have said. So be it. Lord, Thy will be done.