

“Learning to Talk with God”
“Week 1: An Introduction to Prayer”

Faith Bible Church
January 3, 2010

Matthew 6:1-18 (*New American Standard*)

6 "Beware of practicing your righteousness before men to be noticed by them; otherwise you have no reward with your Father who is in heaven.

²"When therefore you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be honored by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. ³"But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing ⁴that your alms may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will repay you.

⁵"And when you pray, you are not to be as the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners, in order to be seen by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. ⁶"But you, when you pray, go into your inner room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will repay you. ⁷"And when you are praying, do not use meaningless repetition, as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that they will be heard for their many words. ⁸"Therefore do not be like them; for your Father knows what you need, before you ask Him. ⁹"Pray, then, in this way:

'Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name.

¹⁰'Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done,

On earth as it is in heaven.

¹¹'Give us this day our daily bread.

¹²'And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

¹³'And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. [For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.]

¹⁴"For if you forgive men for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵"But if you do not forgive men, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions.

¹⁶"And whenever you fast, do not put on a gloomy face as the hypocrites *do*, for they neglect their appearance in order to be seen fasting by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. ¹⁷"But you, when you fast, anoint your head, and wash your face ¹⁸so that you may not be seen fasting by men, but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will repay you.

- I. A FOUNDATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR UNDERSTANDING PRAYER
 - A. Everything _____ with _____
 - B. Prayer is our _____ to Him
 1. To His _____
 2. To His _____
 3. To His _____
 - C. Prayer is an expression of our _____ in and _____ on Him.
- II. AN OVERVIEW OF THE BIBLICAL MEANING OF “PRAYER”
 - A. _____ with God
 - B. _____ with God
- III. A BASIC THEOLOGICAL INTRODUCTION TO PRAYER
 - A. Prayer’s focus: _____
 - B. Prayer’s means: the _____
 - C. Prayer’s purpose: _____ with God
 1. _____ and _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
 - a. for _____
 - b. for _____
 - c. for _____