

Praying to our Father
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INTRODUCTION

There are three basic views of God and prayer:
1. They are useless
2. They are useful
3. They are wonderful

MATTHEW 6.5-15 (NIV)

⁵“And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. ⁶But when you pray, go into your (inner) room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. ⁷And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. ⁸Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

MATTHEW 6.5-15 (NIV)

⁹“This, then, is how you should pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, ¹⁰your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

¹¹Give us today our daily bread. ¹²And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

¹³And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

¹⁴For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

This passage teaches us:

- That Jesus wants us to pray
- How Jesus wants us to pray
- And on what basis we can pray this way

CONCLUSION

To irreligious people God is useless,
to religious people He is useful,
but to Christians He is wonderful!
