

Devotionals for 21 Day Fast

OWN THE PURSUIT

DAY 14: Saturday, January 29th — *Private Prayer Experience*

⁶ But when you pray, go into your 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. Matthew 6:6

Coming to the Father is the best path forward.

To pray is to commune with God.¹ The heart must flow in sincere loyalty and devotion to God alone. Deep humility and full dependence upon God for all things, with determined faithfulness in implicit obedience.¹

It is bringing our souls into harmony with the character of God.¹ Jesus who often withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16). “

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Key Parts of Matthew 6:6► #1 “**But...**”

After explaining that we must not pray like the hypocrites, in order to be seen, Jesus begins to describe the proper way to pray.

► #2 “...**when you pray,**”

Jesus does not say, “if” you pray, but rather, “when” you pray. It is a profound privilege to come before the throne of God by way of the blood of Christ (Heb. 10:19-20).

► #3 “**go into your room, close the door, and pray to your Father,**”

This is not always a literal room. Anywhere you pray to God in secret will suffice. Jesus often prayed outside in the hills. The closed door could refer to the door of your heart to the outside world. Pray to your Father, in faith.

► #4 “**who is unseen.**”

God the Father is a spirit. He has no form, and no one has seen him (1 Jn. 4:12),

► #5 “**Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret,**”

God the Father is omnipresent. He sees what is done in secret, and even knows the secrets of a person’s heart.

► #6 “**will reward you.**”

There is great reward in merely knowing God and being allowed to come to him by faith in personal prayer times. He will add to the answers of your prayer, a reward in heaven.

PRAY:**References**

Adapted from <https://connectusfund.org/matthew-6-6-meaning-of-verse-and-simple-commentary>

¹ Myles Munroe, *Understanding the Purpose and Power of Prayer* (New Kensington, PA: Whitaker House, 2002). 35.

1 John Wesley Goodwin, *The Secret Place of Prayer* (Nazarene Publishing House, 1998), 4.

1 Edwin Harvey and Lillian Harvey, *Kneeling We Triumph* (Chicago, United States: Moody Press, 1971), 23.

(Written & Submitted by Rev. Norman Clayton)

LIFE APPLICATION

Believe!

*God is bearing me up
above all of life's
challenges*

*When I fall God is right
there to catch me*

**HE WILL NEVER ALLOW
ME TO CRASH TO
PIECES**

Devotional Text

Matthew 6:5-8; 14:23

Mark 1:35; 6:46

Luke 5:16, 6:12, 11:1

1 John 4:12

Hebrew 10: 19-20





The Model Prayer

"Our Father Who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name"

- The prayer **principles of adoration** (praise for who God is) and **thanksgiving** (praise for what He has done).

"Your kingdom come; Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven"

- **The principle of affirmation**, that is, agreeing with God's will and submitting to it.

"Give us this day our daily bread"

- **The principle of supplication**, in which we make requests both for ourselves (petition) and for others (intercession).

"And forgive us our debts as we also have forgiven our debtors"

- **The principle of confession** in view of our need for forgiveness of sins.

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

- **The necessity of renewal** as we face the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil.

"For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever"

- A closing prayer that **honors the Lord** and completes our thoughts.

NOTES

LIFE APPLICATION

Why we pray WE PRAY

- Because we love God
- To worship God for who He is
- To say thanks to our Father
- To God to praise Him
- To petition God
- To confess our sins
- To intercede for others
- Pray against the enemies of God
- To listen to God
- To resist temptation
- Because He directs us to pray

Life is all about pursuing God on the path He has marked out especially for me.

I am committed to pursuing God's agenda and not my own.
Jesus - John 5:30 The Voice