

# The Message

Pastor Ron Smith

## Prayer

### Two “Do Nots”

Matthew 6:5 “And when you pray, you shall **not be like the hypocrites**. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. <sup>6</sup>But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. <sup>7</sup>And when you pray, **do not use vain repetitions** as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words. <sup>8</sup>”Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him.



# The Model Prayer

In this manner, therefore, pray:

Our Father in heaven,  
Hallowed be Your name.

Your kingdom come.

Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And do not lead us into temptation,

But deliver us from the evil one.

For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory  
forever. Amen.



# Forgiveness

<sup>14</sup> “For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. <sup>15</sup>But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.



# Have Faith in God

Mark 11:22 So Jesus answered and said to them, “Have faith **in God**. <sup>23</sup>For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. <sup>24</sup>Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.



## Why Prayers Are Not Heard

James 4:2b-3 Yet you do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not received, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures.



## God Promises Not to Hear Some Prayers

Jeremiah 14:11-12 the LORD said to me: “Do not pray for the welfare of this people. Though they fast, **I will not hear** their cry, and though they offer burnt offering and grain offering, I will not accept them.”



## What to Pray For

God commands, “Ask of me and I will give you the nations . . .” (Psalm 2:8).



Men ought always to pray and not lose heart.  
(Luke 18:1)



# Antony of the Desert

251-356 AD



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