

Discipleship - Session 4

Model Prayer Continued

- **FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS**
- **LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION**
- **YOURS IS THE KINGDOM**

Things we will cover this lesson:

1. Unforgiveness and Bitterness will kill your spiritual development.
2. Being led to the maturity level that we are no longer tempted by the evil one.
3. Everything belongs to God.

Assignment:

1. Continue ALONE prayer log.
2. Also go over the material you learned this session. Look up all the scriptures. Put this lesson to practice in your daily life.
3. One day, using the Model Prayer as your guide, spend 1/2 hour ALONE in prayer.
(See Matthew 26:40)

FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS AS WE FORGIVE OUR DEBTORS

Today's session teaches us we must deal with sin in the life of the believer. We will learn about confessing our own sins and we will see how doing so is directly tied to our forgiving others. Also in this session **we must determine once and for all** that unforgiveness and bitterness have no place in the life of a true disciple. If we expect God to forgive us, then it is imperative that we forgive those who have offended us! Unforgiveness and bitterness will stifle your spiritual growth. These are two terrible sins. Get rid of them quickly!

We need to know two things in order to follow this part of the model prayer:

I. Know God Wants To Forgive You!

1. See this in the cross.
 2. See this in the Father's great love for His children. (It is in the realization of the Father's great love that we become able to forgive ourselves. It is here we will be able to overcome the sense of unworthiness. Remember the story of the prodigal son in Luke 15:11-24. He felt unworthy to be called his father's son. Notice the father's response.)
 3. Believe it -1 John 1:9
 4. Hear it - Psalm 139:23-24
- Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any unconfessed sin(s).
 - Confess and forsake any sin(s) now.
 - Thank and praise God for forgiving you for what you just confessed.

II. Know God Wants You To Forgive Others!

1. We must forgive if our faith is to increase. Mark 11:22-26; Luke 17:1-10.
 2. To fail to forgive opens us to the tormentors. Matt. 18:21-35.
 3. Paul amplifies this teaching - Eph. 4:32; Col. 3:13
 4. HOW BITTERNESS HAPPENS.
 - ◇ Lack of application of grace. - Hebrews 12:14 & 15
 - ◇ Bitterness is a person's own sin. It is not someone else's fault! A person does this to themselves.
 5. THE HIGH COST OF BITTERNESS
 - ◇ Deuteronomy 29:14-21 (Drunks think they can drive as well as the sober and they kill people every day.)
 - ◇ Ephesians 4:31
- Determine you will forgive everyone who offends you today.
 - Resolve to not let the "cheap debts" of others keep you from a bountiful relationship with the Father.
 - Forgive and release NOW those who have offended you.
 - Confess and forsake any sin of bitterness NOW.

LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL

In this section of the model prayer, we find one of the most profound ideas of all. This truly is about advanced stages of true discipleship. Without learning properly what has gone before in the model prayer, this part will not be realized in the life of the believer. Certainly if there is unforgiveness or bitterness, this section is virtually impossible.

The key phrase is “**lead us**”. We want God to lead us (or lead me) to where I am no longer tempted by the evil one! Deliver me from evil!

Read Matthew 4:1-11. Jesus was led by the Spirit to be tempted by the devil, yet the devil **could not tempt Him!** So let it be with me!

Bring me to such a relationship with YOU that the evil one cannot snare me! Lead me to the place in life that no matter what happens in life the evil one cannot snare me. Lead me to where no circumstances of life can the evil one use to bring me down.

This is true deliverance from the evil one. This is the place of real maturity as a Christian. This is God’s goal for His children!

When temptation comes your way remember: John 17:15; 1 Cor. 10:13; 2 Peter 2:9.

Two things will greatly help in being delivered from the evil one:

I. Put on the whole armor of God - Eph. 6:10-20

1. Loins girded with truth - Speak and live by the truth.
2. Breastplate of righteousness - Doing right - no matter the cost.
3. Feet shod - Prepare to share the gospel.
4. Shield of faith - Increase of faith and using our faith.
5. Helmet of salvation - Protection of the mind.
6. Sword of the Spirit - The Word of God & Prayer

II. Build God's Hedge about you, your church, your family, etc.

1. See Job 1:10
2. Now look at Psalm 18:1-3; 61:3; 62:1-2; 91:1-4; 138:7; 140:7.
3. God is our Rock, Refuge, Fortress, High Tower, Shield, Stronghold, Deliverer, Salvation. Tell God you want Him to be all these things for you, but tell Him this in the light of what we have learned already in the model prayer.

FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM, POWER, AND GLORY

The Model Prayer concludes back where it began -- glorifying God! When we conclude our prayer, we need to always remember to praise Him. Let us be sure to acknowledge that all is His! The Kingdom, the Power, the Glory is His. The reason we have success and victory in life is because God is! Truly He is the great "I AM".

The Kingdom: It is NOW. The King rules NOW. This kingdom has conquered the old kingdom of darkness. PRAISE HIM! Acknowledge you are a child of the King. Speak forth positive statements of thanksgiving and praise about who and what you are in Christ Jesus.

The Power: His Power! Power for my life in the Holy Spirit. I can speak against forces of evil in Jesus' Name! There is power in the blood! Rev. 12:10-11. Agree with God that you have been given power over all the power of the enemy! (Luke 10:19; 2 Tim. 1:7).

The Glory: To God be the Glory! It is for Him not us. Glorify Him by closing your prayer in high praise to Him. Let flow from your inner man great praise to the Almighty.

All that preceded this final statement in the Model Prayer is reality because of these three things. His kingdom is the ultimate kingdom! His power is the ultimate power! His glory is the ultimate glory!

SUMMATION STATEMENT: No one can harbor unforgiveness or bitterness and expect to succeed as a Christian. You must forgive others. As you mature in Christ, you can expect the Father to lead you in your spiritual growth to where you are not easily tempted by the evil one. Remember the kingdom, power and glory are all His and because they are we can walk in victory!

Now use the first four lessons of this manual as a help (guide) in your daily prayer life.