Matthew 6:9-13

- ✓ Why if God has forgiven us in Christ does He continue to tell us to ask for forgiveness?
- ✓ Why when I could buy half the bread in HEB, does He tell me to ask for bread?
- ✓ This is a humiliating prayer, and humility is what we need.
- ✓ We are being shaped, we are being changed, we are having God's agenda become our agenda; God's teachings become our way of thinking.
- ✓ We have a tendency to get confused, it's the constant state of sheep, so our Good Shepherd has to constantly lead us and watch over us.
- ✓ One of the main ways He watches over us is through prayer, He's leading us and teaching us through prayer
- ✓ In learning how to pray, we must learn to ask for forgiveness.
- ✓ Of all the blessings, mercies, and gifts that God can give to us, this surpasses them all.
- ✓ Sin is the **greatest danger** that we face because it brings eternal destruction, thus, **the greatest need** we have is forgiveness. God offers that!
- ✓ In fact, He more than offers it: **Psalm 86:5**
- ✓ The most dramatic moment in Jesus' suffering for our sins is while He's hanging on the cross, He cries "Father forgive them."
- ✓ Forgiveness is having your debts to Almighty God canceled
- ✓ Debt is slavery, **John 8:34**. Our debts are unpayable; even an eternity in Hell will not pay them off.
- ✓ Every time we sin, we accumulate more debt **Romans 2:5.**
- ✓ God is willing to forgive our debts against Him.
- ✓ Forgiveness means to take away sin or remove it and laying it on Jesus and then punishing Him for it: **Isaiah 53:6.**
- ✓ Forgiveness is covering sin: **Psalm 85:2.**
- ✓ Forgiveness is removing the record of our sin from the record: **Isaiah 43:25.**
- ✓ Only God can forgive sins because only the creditor can forgive the debtor.
- ✓ God is not obligated to forgive, He has chosen to forgive us, we on the other hand, have no choice but to forgive those who sin against us.
- ✓ Likewise, only God can forgive sin, nobody else! But that is exactly what He has done: Colossians 2:13-14.
- ✓ No one could do that for us, only God: Hebrews 10:12; 14. He has done it all, for all time, for all sin, once for all, and sat down since His work of forgiveness was complete.
- ✓ The Judge Himself has declared us not guilty our position with God cannot change or be altered.
- ✓ So, why do we have to keep asking forgiveness? Sin no longer effects our standing, but it does affect our relationship.
- ✓ Jesus says that when we accept Him that He comes to make His home with us: **John 14:23,** it's about relationship and fellowship not just justice or right and wrong.
- ✓ When we sin, we don't damage our standing with God because our standing is permanently fixed in Christ, but we grieve God when we sin because He ultimately forgave us so that we could be His!

Luke 11: Prayer Diagram, Part 7, Forgive Us Our Sins, Part 2

- ✓ If all that was at stake was our standing with God, then there would be no need to ask for forgiveness.
- ✓ Understand, our position with God is a means to an end for Him, relevant only because without forgiveness He is kept from the possibility of a relationship with us.
- ✓ God desperately loves us!

✓	God hates sin because it is robbing Him of what He wants the most.