

Matthew 6:9-13

- ✓ Why do we pray? Because we need help, or others need help.
 - ✓ Jesus is bringing us help, this is "let Me help you" praying.
 - 1. The best thing for helping you is the need to realize to whom you are speaking to.
 - ✓ Father; not just Almighty, judge, creator. The demons can call Him that. --You are coming right to the throne of the One who has paid dearly for you to call Him Father. This will help you.
 - 2. Secondly hallowing or glorifying His name, first and foremost.
 - ✓ Why is that important? He's trying to help us.
 - 3. Next His kingdom and will.
 - ✓ Nothing as urgent as His kingdom and His will.
 - ✓ Jesus says the best thing for all involved is that His kingdom and His will are our first and primary pursuits.
 - 4. Finally, we get to present our needs but that starts with humbly confessing that every bit comes from Him and that we live off of forgiveness of our sin.
 - ✓ These requests are humbling and a humble me is by far the best me.
 - ✓ Things are the way they are in our lives is partly because we think too much of ourselves and want others to do the same.
 - ✓ Do you want to help people? **Humble yourself**. Quit looking for respect, for recognition, for praise.
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5. Do you want to help others? Forgive people who hurt you. Do you want to help yourself? Forgive those who sin against you!

- ✓ Who do we forgive? Everyone! **Luke 11:4**.
- ✓ Forgive as the Lord has forgiven you: **Colossians 3:13**.
- ✓ Does the Lord bring up stuff about your past?
- ✓ Did God wait until you asked for Jesus and recognized your sin before He sent Him?
- ✓ Does the Lord fume over what you've done?
- ✓ Does the Lord hold a grudge against you?
- ✓ Does the Lord delight when you suffer the consequences of your sins?
- ✓ Does the Lord speak to anybody else about what you've done to Him?
- ✓ Did the Lord pay for your sins Himself and not ask anything from you in return? Then do you pay for other's sins and don't ask for anything in return?

6. Forgiveness is only request with a caveat.

- ✓ **Verses 12 & 14-15**
 - ✓ Does this mean we lose our salvation? *Of course not!* God declared you judicially righteous in Christ the moment you accepted Him as Savior.
 - ✓ **2nd Timothy 1:9** He has always known that you'd be His and has always planned to save you, nothing can stop His good intentions toward you.
 - ✓ You don't lose your salvation, but you can sure lose the temporary benefits of your salvation.
 - ✓ God's forgiveness or the lack thereof doesn't affect **your standing with Him**, but it does affect **your fellowship** with Him.
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Luke 11: Prayer Diagram, Part 8, Forgiving Other's Sins, Part 1

- ✓ Put plainly: you will be out fellowship with God if you don't forgive others.
- ✓ You will remain permanently saved but you will be temporarily miserable.
 - Listen to this miserable plea: **Psalm 51:10-12.**
- ✓ You won't lose your salvation, but you will lose your assurance, your peace, your usefulness, your testimony.
- ✓ You'll be putting yourself in the position to be disciplined by the Lord.
- ✓ Do not expect Him to let up and bring these pleasures of His fellowship back into your life if you plan to continue to not forgive.
- ✓ Sin in general short-circuits God's blessings in our lives, but the sin of unforgiveness keeps all the others from being forgiven, its special and so Jesus gives it special attention.
- ✓ Vengeance has been elevated to a virtue in our culture, people make heroes out of the vindictive and vengeful, heroes of our movie world.
- ✓ Our country and culture are drowning in a sea of unforgiveness: shattered marriages; relationships; lawsuits; crimes of all kinds.
- ✓ The price of vengeance and unforgiveness is extremely high: It imprisons people in their past and makes the one who offended you the jail keeper.
- ✓ You are sentencing yourself to always feeling as bad as you do about the event or the person.
- ✓ Memories that you will distort and exaggerate over time will make your sentence worse.
- ✓ Nearly every conversation becomes a forum to slander the person you haven't forgiven.
- ✓ It's nonsense, unwise, self-destructive, it Destroys your well-being, controls your life, removes your happiness and joy.
- ✓ I want to live my life with the maximum joy, peace, assurance, usefulness, and testimony that I can have.
- ✓ **Jude 1:21** That's where I want to be, where the love showers come down the hardest, don't you?