

**“Seeking God” – Part 5**  
**“The Power of Praying Together-2”**  
Various Scripture

1. Sometimes, we need to **reset our expectations** when it comes to prayer.
2. Sometimes we need to ask God to **act when we cannot**.

*<sup>12</sup>Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, <sup>13</sup>for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.   Philippians 2:12-13*

3. The Lord' Prayer: **A reset to our priorities**.

*<sup>3</sup>We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>We write this to make our joy complete.  
1 John 1:3-4*

Prayer: Common and repetitious—**Constant, evolving, rooted**

*<sup>6</sup>So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, <sup>7</sup>rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. <sup>8</sup>See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ.  
Colossians 2:6-8*

*<sup>14</sup>For this reason I kneel before the Father, <sup>15</sup>from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. <sup>16</sup>I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, <sup>17</sup>so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, <sup>18</sup>may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, <sup>19</sup>and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.  
Ephesians 3:14-19*

***Prayer***

*<sup>5</sup>“And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>And when you pray, do not  
keep on babbling like pagans, for they think  
they will be heard because of their many words.*

*<sup>8</sup>Do not be like them, for your Father  
knows what you need before you ask him.*

*This, then, is how you should pray:*

*“Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
<sup>10</sup>your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
<sup>11</sup>Give us today our daily bread.  
<sup>12</sup>And forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our debtors.  
<sup>13</sup>And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from the evil one.”*

*Matthew 6:5-15*

## Personal and Small Group Study

1. Has there ever been a time when you needed a “reset” in your thoughts or habits? How did you walk through this, and who helped you?

2. How important is the order and structure of the Lord’s Prayer in Matthew 6? How can we shift our prayers to prioritize our Father and His Kingdom before our own needs and problems?

3. How can one’s prayer life “evolve” over time? Is there a wrong way, or a right way?

Take a few minutes this week to reflect on the start of the Lord’s Prayer:

*“Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven....”*

Share with your Heavenly Father your thoughts about who He is, and ask Him to help refocus your heart and prayers back to Him and His purposes.