

# Newness of Life Lesson 3

## Teach Us to Pray

*Luke 11:1 And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.*

- I. Introduction
  - A. Prayer was Jesus' habit
    1. In our first lesson, we gave the details about what this new life message is about as we examined Peter's use of the keys of the kingdom to present the Apostles' Doctrine in Jerusalem, Samaria, and Caesarea.
    2. In the last lesson, we talked about **[three essential habits]** that are necessary for gaining Victory in the New Life. our survival as a Christian: (1) Daily Prayer, (2) Daily Bible Reading, and (3) Consistent Church Attendance.

3. Consistent prayer is a very important habit to form, a discipline to master, and a duty to fulfil. But it is also conversation with your best Friend that can happen anytime and anyplace.

B. Prayer Guide

1. Over many decades, I have used a prayer guide as a help to keep my distracted mind focused.

2. The guide includes prayer verses from many books found in the Bible, so if you regularly pray over these verses, you will find you are hiding the Word in your heart which you will be able to quote at times of need.

3. You can download the Prayer Guide **[slide]** [www.brazilinchurch.com/resources](http://www.brazilinchurch.com/resources).

c. Introductory scriptures

1. Since I use it in my morning prayer, we start with a morning focus:

*Ps 5:3 My voice shalt thou hear in the*

*morning, O LORD; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up.*

II. The prayer

1. When the disciples asked Jesus, “Lord, teach us to pray”, this is how He responded (and this is the title of the Prayer Guide). Notice how Jesus intended for this to be a guide:

***Matt 6:9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.***

***10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.***

***11 Give us this day our daily bread.***

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

***13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.***

2. You can find a parallel passage found in Luke 11:2-4.

III. How to pray

1. This prayer can be organized in eight general categories:

(1) Worship

(2) Harvest

(3) Direction with subcategories

(4) Provision

(5) Forgiveness

(6) Protection

(7) Praise

(8) Answer

### **(1) Worship God for who He is:**

1. Jesus began the prayer:

*Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. (Matt 6:9)*

2. Jesus started by shifting our focus from the **earthly and carnal** onto the **heavenly and holy**. This allows us to escape the

distractions of the world and enter into a place where everything is perfect.

3. Right at the start of the prayer we focus on worshiping the One who created us yet we recognize that we are in a relationship with Him—**our Father**.
4. He is holy. Regardless of how unholy the world around you is, you have now come boldly into the holy throne of grace.
5. Now there are several other verses to point our focus to worshiping God:
6. Find a hiding place under His shadow: Ps. 91:1
7. Give honor to our Creator: Rev 4:11
8. All will bow to Jesus: Phil 2:10
9. Give God a great praise: Psalm 48:1

## **(2) Harvest preparation and labor:**

1. After beginning with worship, Jesus set our focus on the top priority of our day: kingdom labor in His harvest:

*Thy kingdom come... (Matt 6:10)*

2. Set our minds on readiness for His coming: Luke 12:37; and doing God's business: Luke 2:49
3. Pray for helpers in the harvest: Matt 9:38
4. Jabez asked for enlargement: ...*Enlarge my coast...* 1 Chron 4:10
5. Seek Holy Ghost power to be a witness: Acts 1:8
6. Seek increased faith: Luke 17:5

### **(3) Direction in general:**

1. Next we ask for direction in a general way over four areas of our life: **a.** direction as a person, **b.** as a partner, **c.** as a parent, and **d.** as a professional and as a citizen.
2. Jesus set the priority of this basic request: ...*Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven (Matt 6:10)*
3. God has perfection and order all around Him in heaven, so we ask for that standard to be overlaid over where we live.
4. Establish whose will should win: Luke 22:42

5. Express your trust in the Lord: Prov 3:5-6
  - A. Direction as a person-to be personally sensitive (think about your senses) to God's voice
    1. Start the morning with God's lovingkindness (a heart feeling): Ps 143:8
    2. Involve your **eyes** by asking God to **show** you His ways: Ps 25:4  
as you set your **eyes** on Him: 2 Chron 20:12
    3. Ask for His hand (**touch**) to guide you:  
*...That thine hand might be with me... (1 Chron 4:10)*  
And to direct your footsteps: Ps 37:23
    4. As you pray, set your **ears** to listen for a course correction: Isa 30:21
  - B. Direction as a partner
    1. Ask for guidance in relationships as a partner.
    2. **Husband**, pray to be sensitive to God on how to improve your relationship with your wife.

3. Love means giving yourself: Eph 5:25
4. Love means being present and aware; get in the grace of life: 1 Peter 3:7
5. **“Grace of life”** is a place of heaven on earth, a **happily-ever-after place**, not in a fairy tale way, but a place where **GOD** pours on us joy, peace, fulfillment, and contentment with our spouse.
6. **Wife**, be sober and love your husband: Titus 2:4,  
and show your love by showing respect:  
Eph 5:22
7. Tonight we will finish with asking specific direction as parent, and professional, and then move on to the last sections:  
Provision, Pardon, Protection, and Praise.
  - c. Direction as a parent
    1. Pray for guidance for your children’s salvation, guidance in their relationships, health, education, and employment: 3 John 4



2. With young children, ask for help to properly train them: Prov 22:6, giving them appropriate discipline: Eph 6:4
  3. Parents, love your children: Titus 2:4
- D. Direction as a professional/citizen
1. If you are employed at a job, pray to be the best employee possible and represent Jesus well in the work place.
  2. Pray to be a diligent (careful with your duties) worker: Prov 22:29
  3. Pray for wisdom, understanding and to be teachable: Daniel 1:4
  4. Pray for help to increase your skills and usefulness at your job: 1 Kings 7:14, 2 Chron 2:14 in KJV and NET
  5. And finally, as a good citizen, remember to pray for your civil and political leaders: 1 Tim 2:1-2

#### **(4) Provision**

1. Now we come to the section of our prayer where we ask petitions for the things we

have need of today.

*Give us this day our daily bread (Matt 6:11)*

2. When Jabez prayed, he ask BIG! *Oh that thou wouldst bless me indeed (1 Chron 4:10)*
3. Ask for abundant blessing that does not depend on borrowing: Deut 15:6 and includes restoration of things lost: Joel 2:25
4. Recall that God is our provider: Phil 4:19 and supplies blessings without sorrow: Prov 10:22
5. Pray for healing: Ps 103:3; realizing that God can even send a word of healing and deliverance (from addictions): Ps 107:20.
6. And know that when you pray, God hears: 1 John 5:14-15

## **(5) Pardon/Forgiveness:**

1. Now we seek forgiveness through repentance.

*And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. (Matt 6:12)*

2. When we confess our sins, we find mercy: Prov 28:13 and forgiveness: 1 John 1:9
3. Ask God to help you do some deep soul searching: Psalm 139:23-24; where you might discover hidden and big sins that need forgiving: Ps 19:12-13
4. Relinquish sin's dominion over you: Ps 119:133
5. It is Jesus' blood, not our goodness that cleanses us: 1 John 1:7
6. Ask God for a clean heart, a right spirit: Ps 51:10, and a renewed mind: Rom 12:2
7. Ask God to replace former lusts with a renewed mind: Eph 4:22-23
8. A renewed spirit makes us feel right. A renewed mind makes us think right.

## **(6) Protection:**

1. Next we pray for two kinds of protection: spiritual and physical.

*And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil... (Matt 6:13)*

2. There are evil spirits at work in the world seeking to devour God's people with temptation and sin, but God promised a way to escape from temptation: 1 Cor 10:13
3. Jabez asked it this way:  
*That thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me! (1 Chron 4:10)*
4. God desires to deliver you from the grief and pain that evil brings, so ask for that deliverance, remembering Jesus gave us authority over all evil:  
*Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. (Luke 10:19)*
5. This is prayer warfare and involves submitting to God and rising in boldness over the devil:  
*Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist*

*the devil, and he will flee from you. (James 4:7)*

6. Prayer warfare also involves putting on God's armor and taking a strong stand against all evil:

*11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. (Eph 6:11-12)*

7. When you pray this way, think of how must fall before you. Even those mind temptations must come under the obedience of Christ:

*2 Cor 10:4-5*

*4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)*

*5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the*

*knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;*

8. You are an overcomer over the devil because of these...

*And they overcame him [the devil] by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death. (Rev 12:11)*

9. Conclude this spiritual warfare section with three verses that call for physical angelic protection. Speak these over yourself, your spouse, your children, and others close to you. Note the action words in each promise: *The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them. (Ps 34:7)*

*For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. (Ps 91:11)*

*Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation? (Heb 1:14)*

## **(7) Praise for what God has done:**

1. Our prayer included worship, revival, direction, provision, pardon, and protection. Now with the other bookend, we conclude with praise.

*...For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen (Matt 6:13)*

2. We began worshiping God for who He is. We end with praise to acknowledge what God has done!
3. And what better way to conclude our prayer warfare, than by noting Who is the REAL boss. Jesus, this is Your Kingdom, you are in power, and you receive all the glory!
4. Include this praise at the end of your prayer:

*This is the day which the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it. (Ps 118:24)*

5. That is an excellent way to start your day. It is an attitude setter.
6. While you are at it, praise Him for ALL His benefits:

*1 Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. 2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: (Ps 103:1-2)*

7. Also, thank the Lord for His great mercy and compassion that sustained us yesterday and that was renewed fresh for today:

*22 It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. 23 They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness. (Lam 3:22-23)*

### **(8) Answer:**

1. A great way to conclude our prayer of faith is how Jabez ended his prayer:

*And God granted him that which he requested. (1 Chron 4:10)*

2. And because Jesus said to ask in His name, we do that—In the name of Jesus!:

*If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it. (John 14:14)*

### IV. Conclusion



1. The story of the life of Jabez is covered in just two verses in the Bible, and includes his prayer that we have referred to several times in this study.
2. But in those two short verses, we see the great transformative power of prayer.
3. Jabez's birth caused his mother great suffering, pain, and sorrow. And because of that, she named the baby, Jabez, which is related to the Hebrew word for sorrow.
4. Imagine entering the world with "sorrow" engraved over your life. The engraving on his crib said, "Here Lies Sorrow."
5. But look at what happened to Jabez despite the painful sorrowful that signaled and shrouded his arrival—and remember, this happened because of his prayer life:

*1 Chron 4:9-10*

*9 And Jabez was **more honourable** than his brethren: and his mother called his name Jabez, saying, Because I bare him with sorrow.*

*10 And Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, Oh that thou wouldest bless me indeed, and enlarge my coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grieve [pain] me! And God granted him that which he requested.*

6. Prayer will guide our perspective so we don't get stuck in the tragedies and sorrow we arrived with, but will help us look with expectation toward blessing indeed, enlargement, God's hand, and deliverance from pain!
7. Sunday morning we are going to take a deeper look at a kind of prayer that becomes more and more important as the last days approach, and that is prayer warfare.