

## Watchman Nee

“Our prayers lay the track on which God’s power can come. Like a mighty locomotive, his power is irresistible, but it cannot reach us without rails.”

## Charles Spurgeon

“I would rather teach one man to pray than ten men to preach.”

## Chuck Smith

“Prayer does not change the purpose of God but it does change the actions of God.”

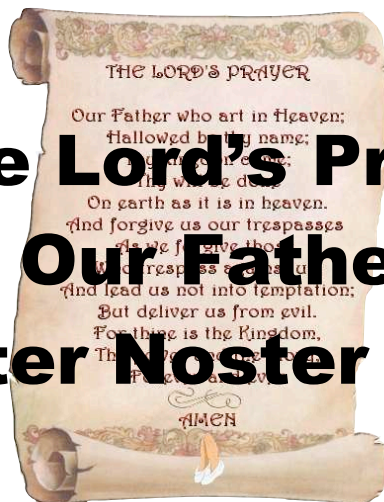
## Resolving dissonance in prayer

### 1 Peter 5:6-11

1. Cast your cares on God.
2. Trust God’s Spirit to intercede for us.
3. Trust God’s wisdom and heart.
4. Trust God for endurance in suffering.

### Matthew 6:9-13

## The Lord’s Prayer Our Father Pater Noster (latin)



### Matthew 6

“9 Pray, then, in this way: ‘Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. 10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. 11 Give us this day our daily bread. 12 And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. 13 And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.’”

### Petition is first about - God & His Kingdom.

“9 Pray, then, in this way: ‘Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be **Thy** name. 10 **Thy** kingdom come. **Thy** will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

### Petition is also about our (not just my) needs.

11 Give **us** this day our daily bread. 12 And forgive **us** our debts, as **we** also have forgiven **our** debtors. 13 And do not lead **us** into temptation, but deliver **us** from evil.

### Added later (not in the best MSS)

For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.”

“9 Pray, then, in this way:”

*Pray in an enlightened manner.*

**A model**  
to guide our  
individual  
prayers.



**A script**  
to be repeated  
word for word as a  
corporate prayer.

*Note that there is no record of this prayer being repeated in the N.T. by the Apostles or the early church.*

“9. . . ‘Our Father who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be Thy name.’”

*Pray to God as Father.*



**Father**  
(wise,  
caring,  
nurturer)



**Government**  
(impersonal,  
resource)



**Santa Clause**  
(generous, wish  
fulfiller)



“10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be  
done, on earth as it is in heaven.”

*Pray for God’s agenda on earth.*



**His Kingdom agenda**

What is the breadth of  
the sphere of God’s  
Kingdom and will in  
this age?

**Sphere of God’s Kingdom?**

**The  
whole  
culture**

Government  
Education  
Arts



**The  
church  
only**

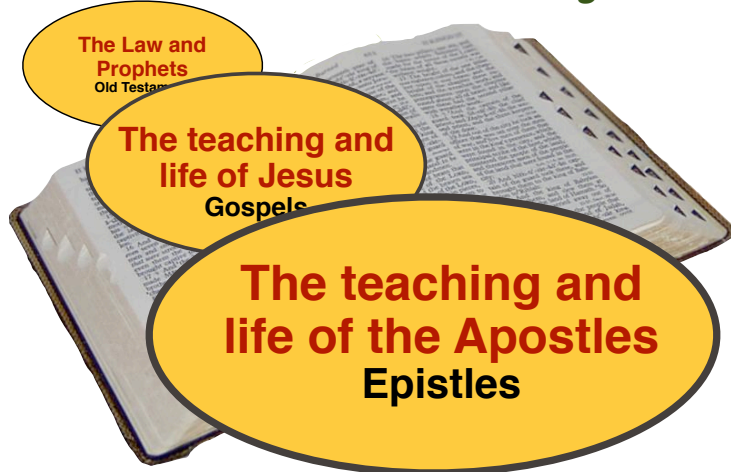
Separate  
Remnant  
Distinct

**Agenda for God’s people?**

**The present expression of the  
Kingdom is in a mystery form.**



*God’s will and His Kingdom?*



*The emphasis of both O.T. & N.T.*

**Ethics directed  
to the WHOLE  
world.**

**Ethics WITHIN the  
covenant community  
of faith**

## How does God's Kingdom come?

Vital relational experiences  
Vital learning experiences  
Vital worship experiences  
Vital ministry experiences



“11 Give us this day our **daily** (uncertain meaning) bread (physical & spiritual).”

**This word is used nowhere else in any Greek literature.**

**A possible meaning**

“Give us the bread that we need”

**Another possible meaning**

“Give us today our bread for the morrow”

“11 Give us this day our daily bread.”

*Pray for our sustenance.*

Matthew 4:4    John 6:26-40



### 1. Provision

**Inner man**  
Spiritual food to meet the demands of life.

**Outer body**  
Physical food to sustain us for the present time.

“12 And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

*Pray for reconciled relationships.*

Ephesians 4:32



### 2. Peace

**Forgiveness**  
from God

**Forgiveness**  
toward others

“13 And do not lead (**bring**) us into (**walk through the door of**) temptation, but deliver us from evil (**or the evil one**).”

**Not**

“do not bring us into the path of temptation”

**But**

“do not bring us to participate in so as to be overcome by temptation”

**Or**

**“protect us from our weaknesses”**

“13 And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil.”

*Pray as a part of spiritual warfare.*

### 3. Protection



**Do not let temptations**  
consume us.

**Rescue us**  
from the dark side of life.

## Psalm 23

### The Good Shepherd

1. feeds the sheep
2. gives peace to the sheep
3. protects the sheep

### Testimony

### Lord's Prayer

#### The Father is asked to

1. feed the sheep
2. provide peace for the sheep
3. protect the sheep

### Petition

“For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.”

*Pray with proper respect  
for the order of things.*



**Living  
sacrifice**  
It's not about  
me.



**King's kid**  
I am entitled.



**Victim**  
I am a martyr.

