

# THE LORDS PRAYER

*The Lord's Prayer (also called the Our Father or Pater Noster, among other names) is a venerated Christian prayer that, New Testament, Jesus taught as the way to pray. Two versions of this prayer are recorded: the long form in the Gospel of Matthew in the middle of the Sermon on the Mount, and the short form in the Gospel of Luke when "one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John [the Baptist] taught his disciples.*

The following is taken from Dr. Martin Luther's Small Catechism, Edited by the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and other States with Additional Notes For Students, Teachers, and Pastors by Edward W. A. Koehler D. D. Concordia Teachers Collage, River Forest, Ill.

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## ***The Lord's Prayer***

*God commands and invites believers in Jesus Christ to pray.*

*Matthew. 7:7-8 Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.*

*1 Thess. 5:16-18 Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus*

*What is Prayer?... Prayer is speaking to God in words and thoughts.*

**AS THE HEAD OF THE FAMILY SHOULD TEACH IT IN A SIMPLE WAY TO HIS HOUSEHOLD**

## *The Lord's Prayer*

*Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not onto temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen (Matthew 6: 9-13)*

### *The Introduction*

*Our Father who art in heaven.*

*What does this mean?... With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father.*

### *The First Petition*

*Hallowed be thy name*

*What does this mean?... Gods name is certainly holy in itself, but we pray in this petition that it may be kept holy among us also.*

*How is Gods name kept holy?... Gods name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven! But anyone who teaches or lives contrary to God's Word profanes the name of God among us. Protect us from this, heavenly Father!*

### *The Second Petition*

*Thy kingdom come*

*What does this mean?... The kingdom of God certainly comes by itself without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may come to us also.*

*How does God's kingdom come?... God's kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity.*

### *The Third Petition*

*Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

*What does this mean?... The good and gracious will of God is done even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.*

*How is Gods will done?... Gods will is done when He breaks and hinders every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow God's name, or let His kingdom come; and when He strengthens and keeps us firm in His Word and faith until we die.*

*This is His good and gracious will.*

### *The Forth Petition*

*Give us this day our daily bread.*

*What does this mean?... God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayer, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.*

*What is meant by daily bread?... Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the daily support and needs of our body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, faithful neighbors, and the like.*

### *The Fifth Petition*

*And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive as we forgive those who trespass against us.*

*What does this mean?... We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look at our sins, or deny our prayer because of them. We are neither worthy of these things for which we pray, nor have we deserved them, but we ask that He would give them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will sincerely forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us.*

### *The Sixth Petition*

*And lead us not into temptation.*

*What does this mean?... God tempts no one. We pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us so that the devil, the world, and our sinful nature may not deceive us or mislead us into false belief, despair, and other great shame and vice. Although we are attached by these things, we pray that we may finily overcome them and win the victory.*

### *The Seventh Petition*

*But deliver us from evil.*

*What does this mean?... We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour has come, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.*

### *The Conclusion*

*For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen*

*What does this mean?... This means that I should be certain that these petitions are pleasing to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us. Amen, amen means "yes, yes, it shall be so,"*