

2024 FCBC Retreat – Keynote Message 1
“LORD TEACH US TO PRAY”
(Luke 11:1-13)

There could be no better teacher than Jesus.

(Matthew 7:28-29) “...*the people were astonished at His teaching, for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.*”

(John 7:46) “*the officers answered, no man ever spoke like this man.*”

First, there are some preliminaries to prayer.

A. We must have a vision for prayer.

(1) In Verse 1, we find this unnamed disciple of Jesus was so moved by Jesus’s prayer life that he desired to have that kind of prayer life as well.

(Proverbs 29:18) “*Where there is no vision, the people perish...*”

When we aim at nothing, we will generally hit it!

Do you have a vision for prayer?

Would you welcome Jesus’s teaching about prayer into your heart and cry out with this disciple, “*Lord teach us to pray*”?

B. We learn to pray by praying.

(2) “*So he said to them, when you pray.*”

Jesus didn’t say: “if you pray, but when you pray.” He expects God’s children to pray.

To learn how to pray, we must make a commitment to be given to prayer.

Do you have a regular time alone with God each day to pray? (Matthew 6:6)

Do you pray throughout the day? (1 Thessalonians 5:17)

C. The basic definition of prayer is talking with God.

(2b) “*...say*”

Notice, I said “with” and not just “to” God. Prayer is a two-way conversation. God speaks to us through His word and Spirit, and we speak to Him as well.

This word “say” indicates we are to verbally express our prayers to God.

Some audibly speak their prayers, some write them in a prayer journal, and some practice both methods. Don’t just imagine your prayers, energetically express them.

In Verse 2-4, Jesus give us seven basic principles.

1) **The personal principle, “Our Father”.**

- It is difficult to talk to someone you do not know personally.
- To address God as your Father means you have a personal relationship with Him. You don’t just know about Him, you know Him.
- (John 1:12) “*But to as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name.*”
- CF. John 17:13; 3:3; 1 John 3:1; Matthew 7:21-23
- Question: Do I know God, or just know about Him?

2) **The privilege principle, “in heaven”.**

- This reminds us that God overrules the universe from His throne in Heaven. He is the highest of the high and the greatest of the great. He is truly king of kings and Lord of Lords.
- (Hebrews 4:16) *“Let us therefore come boldly (freely) before the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in a time of need.”*
- CF. (Isaiah 6:1-4; 66:1-2; Psalms 33:13-15; Psalms 113:4-6)
- In (Jeremiah 33:3), God invites us to *“Call unto me and I will answer you...”*
- What a privilege, through Jesus Christ, we can call on God Almighty, any time, any place, about anything, and He (not an administrative assistant) will personally answer us.

3) **The praise principle, “Hallowed by your name”.**

- This is not a request, but a declaration of praise and worship. It declares that God is holy. He is not only separated from all sin and wrongdoing, but high and lifted up from all other beings. He is the one and only God, worthy of all our praise and worship.
- Psalm 100:2, 4 *“Serve the Lord with gladness, come before His presence with singing. Enter His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise, Be thankful to Him and bless His name.”*
- It is a general and powerful principle that before we petition God, we need to praise Him.
- Prayer has a gate and an inner court. We must first thank and praise God if we are to enter the Holy of Holies of the prayer experience. Praise brings us close to God.
- (2 Chronicles 20:1-3; Acts 4:23-31; Acts 16:25; Psalms 113:3)
- Question: Do my prayers begin with thanksgiving and praise to God?

4) **The purpose principle, “your will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven.”**

- The kingdom of God refers to the rule of God, or His perfect will being done. We pray and long for the second coming of Christ, when He will rule completely over a new Heaven and Earth.
- However, until then, this is a petition of total submission where we pray for God’s rule and will to be done in our lives as well as the lives of those we pray for.
- Jesus said, *“My food is to do the will of Him who sent me and finish His work.”*
- In Matthew 6:33, Jesus commands us to *“seek first the kingdom (rule) of God and His righteousness...”*
- He prayed in Gethsemane, *“not my will but Thy will be done.”*
- Doing God’s will is mankind’s ultimate purpose and therefore, the overall purpose of our prayers.
- In (1 Corinthians 3:9), we are called, *“co laborers with God”.*
- God in His sovereignty, has so ordained and privileged us to work with Him to bring about His will on earth. One of the main ways we do this is through prayer.
- (1 John 5:14-15; Ezekiel 22:30; Matthew 26:39)

2024 孟菲斯第一華人浸信會
退修會主題信息 (1)
「求主教導我們禱告」(路加福音 11:1-13)

沒有比耶穌更好的老師

(馬太福音 7:28-29) ...眾人都希奇他的教訓；因為他教訓他們，正像有權柄的人，不像他們的文士。

(約翰福音 7:46) 差役回答說：「從來沒有像他這樣說話的！」

首先，禱告有一些準備功夫

A. 我們必須有禱告的異象

(1) 在第 1 節中，我們發現這位不知名的耶穌門徒被耶穌的禱告所感動。他也渴望擁有那樣的禱告生活。

(箴言 29:18) 沒有異象，民就放肆...

當我們沒有目標時，我們隨意射箭都肯定會擊中某些東西！

你有禱告的異象嗎？

你願意接受耶穌關於禱告的教導進入你的心裡，並與這位門徒一起呼喊：

「求主教導我們禱告」嗎？

B. 我們透過禱告來學習禱告

(2) 耶穌說：「你們禱告的時候...」

耶穌並不是說：「如果你們禱告，而是當你們禱告的時候」。祂期望神的兒女都禱告。要學習如何禱告，我們必須致力於禱告。

你每天有固定的時間與神獨處禱告嗎？(馬太福音 6:6)

你一整天都有在禱告嗎？(帖撒羅尼迦前書 5:17)

C. 禱告的基本定義就是與神交談

(2 下) 「...要說」

請注意，我說的是「與」神，而不僅僅是「向」神。禱告是雙向的對話。神透過祂的話語和聖靈向我們說話，我們也向祂說話。

「說」這個字表示我們要口頭向神表達我們的禱告。

有些人說出他們的祈禱，有些人將其寫在禱告記事本中，有些人同時使用兩種方法。不要只是想像你的禱告，而是要積極地表達出來。

在 2-4 節中，耶穌給了我們七個基本原則

1) 關係的原則，「我們在天上的父」

- 與你不認識的人交談很困難
- 稱神為你的天父意味著你與祂有個人關係。你不只知道關於祂的一些事情，你還親自認識祂。
- （約翰福音 1:12）「凡接待他的，就是信他名的人，他就賜他們權柄，作神的兒女。」
- 比較：約翰福音 17:13, 3:3；約翰一書 3:1；馬太福音 7:21-23
- 問題：我親自認識神，還是只知道關於祂的一些事情？

2) 特權的原則，「在天上」

- 這提醒我們，神在天上的寶座上統管宇宙。祂是最崇高，最偉大的主宰。祂是真正的萬王之王、萬主之主。
- （希伯來書 4:16）所以，我們只管坦然無懼的（自由地）來到施恩的寶座前，為要得憐恤，蒙恩惠，作隨時的幫助。
- 比較（以賽亞書 6:1-4；66:1-2；詩篇 33:13-15；詩篇 113:4-6）
- 在（耶利米書 33:3）中，神邀請我們「求告我，我就應允你...」
- 透過耶穌基督，我們可以隨時隨地就任何事呼求全能的神，這是多麼榮幸的事，祂（不是行政助理）會親自回答我們。

3) 讚美的原則，「願人都尊你的名為聖」

- 這不是請求，而是讚美和敬拜的宣告。它宣告神是聖潔的。祂不僅與一切的罪和惡行分開，而且被高舉在所有受造之物以上。祂是獨一的神，配得我們一切的讚美和敬拜。
- （詩篇 100:2, 4）你們當樂意事奉耶和華，當來向他歌唱！當稱謝進入他的門；當讚美進入他的院。當感謝他，稱頌他的名！
- 在我們向神祈求之前，我們需要先讚美祂。這是一個普遍而且有力的原則。
- 禱告有門和內院。我們若要進入禱告經歷的至聖所，首先必須感謝和讚美神。讚美使我們親近神。
- （歷代志下 20:1-3；使徒行傳 4:23-31；使徒行傳 16:25；詩篇 113:3）
- 問題：我的禱告是否以感謝和讚美神作開始？

4) 目標的原則，「願你的旨意行在地上，如同行在天上。」

- 神的國指的是神的統治，或祂完美的旨意得以實現。我們禱告並渴望基督的再來，到時祂將完全統治一個新的天地。

- 然而，在此之前，這是完全順服的心願。我們祈求神的統治和旨意在我們的生命中以及我們代禱的人的生命中實現。
- 耶穌說：「我的食物就是遵行差我來者的旨意，作成他的工。」
- 在馬太福音 6:33 中，耶穌命令我們要「先求神的國（統治）和他的義...」
- 祂在客西馬尼園禱告：「然而，不要照我的意思，只要照你的意思。」
- 遵行神的旨意是人類的最終目標，因此也是我們禱告的整體目標。
- 在（哥林多前書 3:9）中，我們被稱為「與神同工」的。
- 神以祂的主權命定我們並賦予我們特權與祂同工，在地上成就祂的旨意。我們達到這一點的主要方法之一是透過禱告。
- （約翰一書 5:14-15；以西結書 22:30；馬太福音 26:39）