

***The Things We Need Most***

Matthew 6:11-13

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**Introduction:** Do we pray simply so we'll be changed? Or should we expect our prayers to accomplish something? Eighteenth century theologian, Jonathan Edwards, called prayer the greatest activity for nourishing the new nature and causing the soul to prosper. Which is absolutely true. But prayer is not primarily an exercise in self-betterment. *Prayer is the means by which God has determined to bless us.* God gives us what we need in response to our prayers. So what, then, should we ask for?

**Three "We" Petitions****01.****02.****03.**

Lord, Teach  
Us to Pray



1. Because prayer is a spiritual act done in the spiritual realm it is extremely difficult. Why?
2. If Jesus prohibits repeating the same words and phrases over and over, then how should we approach the Lord's Prayer? Should we recite it exactly as it appears in the text? Why or why not?
3. Is it right to pray for health, strength, and energy? How do we distinguish between a want and a need?
4. If God justifies us at the moment of our conversion and forever declares us "not guilty" because of Christ's righteousness, then why do we need to regularly ask God for his forgiveness (see v.12)?
5. Why is forgiveness our profoundest need? When was the last time you asked God for forgiveness?
6. Does God lead his children into temptation (cf. Jm. 1:13)? If not, what is the meaning of Mt. 6:13?

Lord, Teach  
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# The Things We Need Most



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Biblical prayer is a renunciation of human confidence and a corresponding appeal to God based on need illuminated by Scripture and subordinated to the will of God.



Lord, Teach  
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# Three “We” Petitions



Lord, Teach  
Us to Pray



**“Give us this day what is  
needful for tomorrow.”**



Lord, Teach  
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01. All concerns for day-to-day necessities, regardless of how seemingly insignificant, should be brought to our caring Father.



Lord, Teach  
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“You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.” *James 4:2b-3*



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02. Of all our needs, the need for  
forgiveness is the most profound.



Lord, Teach  
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“The forgiveness the saints here ask for themselves is only the pardon of guilt of fatherly anger, and the manifestation of pardon, and not the pardon of the guilt of eternal wrath.” Thomas Boston



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03. The sweet renewal of fellowship  
and cleansing of guilt are benefits of  
God's immediate forgiveness.



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Us to Pray