

PRAYER IS SAYING



KEY VERSE

"Forgive our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors."

—Matthew 6:12

Listening to how Jesus prayed has already taught us a lot of things. We've learned that we praise and worship our God when we pray and that we partner with God to make our earth right now reflect the love and truth of heaven. We listened as Jesus asked God to provide for His daily needs. This helped us understand that God likes to hear our requests and always answers us according to His will.

Today, we are learning that praying is also saying! Just as Jesus taught us to ask God for things according to His will, He also taught us to say the true things we know God wants to do in our lives. In the Lord's Prayer, we see the next line: "Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors." Jesus is saying that God desires to forgive us and wants us to forgive others. Some Bibles use the word "debts," some use "transgressions," and others use the word "sin." No matter what word your Bible uses for "debts," it does mean sin. When we say, "Forgive our debts," we are saying that God forgives our sins because of the saving work of Jesus. We also say that because we experience God's forgiveness, we will give grace to others as we forgive their wrongdoings against us.

It is very important to understand that every one of us has sin in our lives because we are not perfect. Sometimes we will choose to do the wrong thing, be unkind, or not show love to others as we should. All of us fail, and we all need God's forgiveness. We know that because Jesus came into this world, died for us, and rose from the dead, we can receive forgiveness from God. That forgiveness allows us to spend eternity with God in heaven. It also allows us to see how important it is for everyone to have a chance to receive God's forgiveness.

When we say that God forgives us as we forgive others, we are trusting God's power and love while also learning to share His love with others. It is easy to want forgiveness for ourselves. It is harder to forgive those who we may think do not deserve it. But God never turns away anyone who wants His forgiveness. He gives His grace freely and asks us to do the same. We have been given so much through Jesus, so let's share that with others.



PLAY VIDEO

<https://vimeo.com/showcase/9941856/video/769936729>

40 DAYS OF *prayer*