

PRAYER IS PRAISE



KEY VERSE

"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name."

—Matthew 6:9

Did you know that when you pray, you are talking to the God of the whole universe? He loves us and wants nothing more than to hear us speak to Him. When we pray, we are making His heart glad because we are saying that we know He is the Creator of everything and that only He can hold this world together.

When Jesus began teaching His disciples to pray, He told them to always start by praising God for who He is. The first line of the Lord's prayer, which Jesus taught them, says, "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name." Most people never use the word "hallowed" anymore, and it might be a word you have never heard! So, let's find out what that means and how we can talk to God today with words we know to praise God the way Jesus taught us.

The dictionary says "hallowed" means "greatly honored, holy, special, and set apart." So, when Jesus told His disciples to begin their prayers to God by saying, "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name," He was telling them to say something like this: "Dear God, I know you are our Father in heaven, and You are special, holy, and like no one else on the whole earth!"

When we begin our prayers like that, we are not just talking to God; we are also praising God. And praising God is a way to worship Him. Jesus taught us to pray first by teaching us to praise. When you begin talking to God, always start by saying true things about how special and honored He is. When we begin our prayers with praise, we pray just like Jesus!

Begin your prayers today just like Jesus by praising God for who He is!



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40 DAYS OF *prayer*