

# The Disciples' Prayer

## Lesson 3

- I. Introduction and review
  - A. Prayer's Primary Purpose
    1. Prayer is the opportunity for God to display His glory
    2. John 14:13
    3. The recognition that God is a loving Father is where all prayer begins – He cares....."*Our Father....*"
- II. The First Petition Concerns the Exalted Father
  - A. "*Hallowed by Your Name*"
    1. A person's name is closely related to what he is
    2. In the Old Testament, God uses names of Himself to reveal Himself as He is
    3. Examples: *God the Most High, Almighty, I Am,*
    4. God's names represent His character, nature and attributes and the name of God is the composite of all His attributes (Ex 34:5-7; Psalm 9:10; Psalm 7:17; 20:7; 102:15; 113:1; 148:5; Proverbs 18:10; Isaiah 50:10; 56:6; 59:19)
    5. Hallowing His name is showing reverence in terms of His nature and attributes
    6. John 17:6 – "*I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of this world.*"  
Jesus is the embodiment of the name of God – the human disclosure of all that God is.
  - B. Hallow means to sanctify, to make holy, or to consider holy; to treat as sacred
  - C. We are to reverence, honor, consider holy and acknowledge the name of God, and therefore God Himself
  - D. We don't make God holy; we simply petition that He be revealed as holy.
  - E. We are asking our heavenly Father to act in such a way that we will reverence God, glorify Him, consider Him holy, and acknowledge Him.
    1. Many use "God " and "Jesus" as oaths or an expression of disgust or anger
    2. We should regard God's name as so holy that it will be sufficient to incite a spirit of reverence and holy fear

- F. We are asking God to work in others and us so that we will acknowledge His unsurpassed and glorious always.
- G. The highest goal of prayer is not that we are made holy but that God's name be hallowed, held in reverence
- H. We are not the center of the universe as we think we are and it gives that place to God alone.
- I. The reason "*Hallowed be Thy name*" comes after "*Our Father*" is because it serves as a protection against over sentimentality or abuse of the concept of "*Abba.*"
- J. Too often, we bring God down to our level rather than approaching Him at His level; people talk to God in such low level concepts and terms that they don't do justice to His hallowed name.
- K. In plain terms, we might begin to pray in this manner: "*Our Father, who loves us and cares for us and has, in heaven, supplies to meet our every need, may Your person, Your identity, Your character, Your nature, Your attributes, Your very being itself be hallowed.*"
- L. How do we hallow His name?
  1. We hallow His name when we believe He exists – Heb.11: 6
  2. We hallow His name when we know the kind of God He is – John 17:3. Taking the Lord's Name in vain is to bring into your concept of God ideas that have no place in His character, nature, or attributes. It is not only thinking the wrong thoughts about God but also by being ignorant of the right thoughts about God.
  3. We hallow His name when we are constantly aware of His presence, to live a God conscious life – Psalm 16:8
  4. We hallow His name when we live a life of obedience to Him – Deut. 26:16; Joshua 1:8; Jer. 7:3; Acts 5; 29