

Scripture: Matthew 6: 7-15 (TMSG) “Pray with Simplicity”

⁷⁻¹³ “The world is full of so-called prayer warriors who are prayer-ignorant. They’re full of formulas and programs and advice, peddling techniques for getting what you want from God. Don’t fall for that nonsense. This is your Father you are dealing with, and he knows better than you what you need. With a God like this loving you, you can pray very simply. Like this:

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
Our Father in heaven,
Reveal who you are.
Loving Creator,
we honor you,
and we honor all that you have made.
You are Our Father, you live in heaven
We talk to you, Father, you are good
Heavenly Father,
holy and blessed is your true Name.

¹⁰ your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Set the world right;
Do what’s best— as above, so below.
Renew the whole world
in the image of your love.
We believe your Word, Father
We pray for your reign of peace to come.
We pray that your will be done.
Let heaven and earth become one.

¹¹ Give us today our daily bread.
Keep us alive with three square meals.
Give us what we need for today,
and a hunger to see the whole world fed.
We’re your children, give us bread today
Give us this day the bread we need.
Give it to those who have none.

¹² And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
Keep us forgiven with you and forgiving others.

Strengthen us for what lies ahead;
heal us from the hurts of the past;
We have done wrong, we are sorry
Help us, Father, not to sin again
Others have done wrong to us
And we are sorry for them, Father, today
Let forgiveness flow like a river between us
from each one, to each one to each one.

¹³ And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.’
Keep us safe from ourselves and the Devil.
give us courage to follow your call in this moment.
Stop us from doing wrong, Father
Save us all from the evil one
Lead us to holy innocence,
beyond the evil of our days,
Come swiftly, Father, Come.

Yours is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.
You’re in charge! You can do anything you want!
You’re ablaze in beauty! Yes. Yes. Yes.
For your love is the only power,
the only home, the only honor we need,
in this world and in the world to come.
You are Our Father, you live in heaven
We talk to you, Father, you are good
For Yours is the Power
and the Mercy
and the Glory.
Forever Your Name is All in One.
Amen.

¹⁴⁻¹⁵ “In prayer there is a connection between what God does and what you do. You can’t get forgiveness from God, for instance, without also forgiving others. If you refuse to do your part, you cut yourself off from God’s part.