**Lord Teach Us to Pray – Matt. 6:8**

**Focal Truth: When you pray – pray with confidence to God the Father**

**Observations**

1. **Pray confidently to Your heavenly Father – 6:8**

*Your Father…*

1. Believers have confidence in prayer as children of God the Father

“Your Father”

1 John 3:1 – See what great love God has shown us that we are called children of God

Matt. 6:6 – *go to your inner room…and pray to Your Father*

1. Jesus prayed confidently in his time on earth to God the Father

Mk. 14:36 – *he was saying Abba Father! All things are possible for you!*

1. God the Father gives new birth to those who believe in Jesus Christ

1 Pet. 1:3 – *blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has caused us to be born again to a living hope…*

1. Believers in prayer express **their dependence** to God the Father

Rom. 8:15 – *they received the spirit of adoption & cry, Abba Father!*

1. Believers in prayer express **their assurance** to God the Father

Gal. 4:6 – *because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying Abba! Father!*

**Consider:**

**Secret prayer confidently cries Abba Father**

Heavenly Father, I adore you!

Heavenly Father, I love you!

Heavenly Father, I trust you!

Heavenly Father, I wait for you!

Heavenly Father, I submit to you!

1. **Pray confidently to You heavenly Father who is present as you pray – 6:8**

*Your Father knows what you need*

1. Believers have confidence in prayer because the God who knows them is with them

Matt. 6:6 – *your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you*

Ps. 31:20 – *you hide them in the secret place of Your presence from the conspiracies of man, you keep them secretly in a shelter from the strife of tongues*

1. God the Father sees you praying

Ps. 33:18 – *behold the eye of the Lord is on those who fear Him, on those who hope in His lovingkindness*

1. God the Father listens to you praying

Ps. 116:1 – I love the Lord because He hears my voice & my supplications

1. God the Father is present with you as you pray

**Consider:**

**Your heavenly Father is present as you pray to Him in secret**

He discerns the condition of your heart as you pray

He discerns the thoughts of your mind as you pray

He discerns the motivations of your desires as you pray

He discerns the emotions of your mind as you pray

1. **Pray confidently to Your heavenly Father who knows what you need as you pray - 6:8**

*Your Father knows what you need before you ask*

1. Believers confidently pray to God the Father because He knowingly meets their needs

Phil. 4:16 – *my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in Christ Jesus*

1. Believers rely on God the Father to meet all their needs

*Your Father knows what you need before you ask*

1. God the Father gives good things to those who ask for them

Matt. 7:7 – 11 – *ask & it shall be given, seek & you shall find, knock & the door will be opened to you…if then you being evil know how to give good gifts to your children,* ***how much more will you Father who is in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him!***

**Consider:**

**As you pray God the Father knowingly provides for all your needs before you ask!**

He knows & provides for your physical needs

Matt. 6:32 – *for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things*

Luke 12 – consider the Ravens – are you not more important than birds?

Consider the flowers of the field – are you not more important than flowers?

***Your Father knows that you need these things***

He knows & provides for our emotional needs

He knows & provides for our spiritual needs

He knows & provides for our protection

He knows & provides for our guidance

He knows & provides for our instruction

**Things to Remember & Do**

1. **God the Father loves to fellowship with His children in secret as we pray**
2. **God the Father’s presence assures & comforts us as we pray**
3. **God the Father knows what you need for every season & circumstance of life**

He knows what you need

He knows before you know what you need

He knows best how to meet your need

**Matt. 6:8 – *Your Father knows what you need before you ask Him!***

**To the praise of the glory of His grace! The Lord is near to the door! Come Lord Jesus!**