

Matthew
The Prayer of Jesus
May 17-18, 2008

I. Introduction

II. The prayer of Jesus (Matthew 6:1-8)

- A. Jesus gave his listeners a **model** of what prayer could be in the life of the kingdom.
- B. He was not just giving them words to recite or a model to repeat.
- C. In teaching them to pray in this way, Jesus is opening the door to **life** with God!

III. The revolutionary aspects of the prayer

A. The **Who** of the prayer.

1. Jesus begins very simply yet profoundly with, “Our Father”.
 - Greek – “pater”
 - Aramaic – “Abba”
2. It was the use of these two words together that really answered the “Who “ question of prayer
3. The cry of “papa” forever answers the “who” of the prayer for it:
 - Settles the relationship of humanity to the unseen **world!**
 - Settles the relationship between **humans.**
 - Settles the relationship with ourselves!

B. The **where** of the prayer.

1. “Our Father, who art in heaven...”
 - And just where is that?
2. Jesus is not using the word to denote a far away geographical place but instead refers to the space that God inhabits.
 - “Our Father...who surrounds me...is all around me...closer than the air I breathe...”

C. The **what** of the prayer.

1. “Your kingdom come...”
 - The prayer has one objective and that is that all other kingdoms would be **displaced** and brought under the kingdom of God.
2. “...your will be done...”
 - How do you know when that happens?
 - When it happens on **earth!**
3. How does it come about?
 - Total intimacy leads to total obedience which leads to God’s will being done on earth.

IV. Conclusion