

- B.** Do what you can to make things right with works.
*“8 Then Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord,
 “Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor;
 and if I have taken anything from anyone by false
 accusation, I restore fourfold.”*
*9 And Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come
 to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham;”*
 Luke 19:8-9

V. RELEASE THOSE WHO HAVE HURT YOU

*“14 “For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly
 Father will also forgive you.
 15 But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither
 will your Father forgive your trespasses.”* Matthew 6:14-15

- A.** Trust God to handle your hurt.
*“Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give
 place to wrath; for it is written, “Vengeance is Mine,
 I will repay,” says the Lord.”* Romans 12:19
- B.** Cover your hurt with grace.
*“looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace
 of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up
 cause trouble, and by this many become defiled;”*
 Hebrews 12:15
- C.** Nail your hurt to the cross.
*“having wiped out the handwriting of requirements
 that was against us, which was contrary to us. And
 He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the
 cross.”* Colossians 2:14

CONNECT WITH GOD THROUGH FORGIVENESS!

CONNECTING WITH GOD
The Lord’s Prayer
 The Prayer Of Forgiveness
Pastor Steve Reynolds

INTRODUCTION

- A.** The Lord's Prayer is the most well-known prayer in the Bible. It's also one of the most powerful ways to connect with God

*“In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven,
 Hallowed be Your name.”* Matthew 6:9

The Lord’s Prayer is the model prayer and it consists of a prayer list.

- B.** Connecting With God: The Lord’s Prayer unveils the beautiful meaning and personal application of every part of this prayer. Your life will be transformed as you discover what it truly means to be spiritually connected with God and one another.

May 14	Connecting With God Through Prayer
May 21	The Prayer Of Praise
May 28	The Prayer Of Surrender
June 4	The Prayer Of Dependence
TODAY	The Prayer Of Forgiveness
June 18	The Prayer Of Deliverance
June 25	The Prayer Of Fulfillment

- C. Text:** Matthew 6:9-13

Connect with God through The Prayer Of Forgiveness.

“ And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors.”
 Matthew 6:12

Prayer is maintaining your fellowship with God.

HOW TO CONNECT WITH GOD THROUGH FORGIVENESS

I. INSPECT YOUR LIFE

A. Do a personal spiritual assessment.

“Let us search out and examine our ways, And turn back to the LORD;” Lamentations 3:40

*“23 Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties;
24 And see if there is any wicked way in me,
And lead me in the way everlasting.*

Psalm 139:23-24

B. Do not blameshift.

“11 And He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?”

12 Then the man said, “The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate.”

13 And the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

Genesis 3:11-13

II. CONFESS EVERY SIN

A. A wrong view of confession:

People must confess their sin before a priest and do penance for their sin.

“ For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,” I Timothy 2:5

“25 As Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him and fell down at his feet and worshiped him.

26 But Peter lifted him up, saying, “Stand up; I myself am also a man.” Acts 10:25-26

B. A right view of confession:

Agree with God, take responsibility.

“He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.” Proverbs 28:13

“I acknowledged my sin to You, And my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,” And You forgave the iniquity of my sin. Selah” Psalm 32:5

III. BELIEVE GOD HAS CLEANSED YOU

A. Satan is the accuser of sin.

“...for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.” Revelation 12:10b

B. God is the cleanser of sin.

“For You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive, And abundant in mercy to all those who call upon You..” Psalm 86:15

“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” I John 1:9

IV. MAKE RESTITUTION WHEN POSSIBLE

*“23 Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you,
24 leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.”* Matthew 5:23-24

A. Do what you can to make things right with words.

“Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed....”

James 5:16a