

The Lord's prayer

The best know of all Prayers, it is

(a) a model prayer.

(b) a prayer to be used.

It has a pattern:

First, comes the word of address ("Our Father..") It helps us get God's identity and dignity clear in our minds.

Second, comes two "trios of prayers" the first has at its centre our Father (his name, kingdom and will) and the second ourselves (our need of provision, pardon, and protection.

"Our Father.."

The fact we call God Father reminds us:

1, we come to God only through Christ. It is only through Him we become children of God (John1: 12)

2, we come in a spirit of obedience.

3, we can come with confidence.

"... in heaven"

Jesus spoke of God our Father in heaven not because God is remote but because He exists on a higher plane than we do. We are weak, changeable; He is strong, steady. His love is constant, His power infinite.

Our Father in heaven.

Hallowed be your name

Your kingdom come.

Your will be done.

On earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins.

As we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial.

And deliver us from evil. For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

(PS I found this article in my Mother's - The Living Bible, who passed away 1986)

Jack