

Teach Us To Pray
Forgive and Deliver
July 12 2026

Scriptures:

Matthew 18:23-35

"Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold^[a] was brought to him. Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

"At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

"But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins.^[b] He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded.

"His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.'

"But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

"Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' In anger, his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured until he should pay back all he owed.

"This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Matthew 6:12

And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

Luke 11:4

Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us.

Matthew 18:21-22

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times."

Matthew 6:13

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Luke 11:4

And lead us not into temptation.

Discuss:

- Reflect on last week's practice of Supplication and Confession: what did you notice?
- What stood out to you about this week's message?
- How was God's character revealed to you this week from the message?
- How did this week's message challenge your prayer life or your understanding of prayer?
- How can we come alongside you in prayer this week?

Practice:**The Prayer of Examen*****Our Father***

- Where did I experience God's love this week?

It starts with our Father—a reminder that God is a loving parent. So, where did you encounter God and His love? Could be simple. A moment of solitude. Kind words of a friend, your spouse, your kids.

Your kingdom come

- Where did I notice God at work?

God's rule and reign—where did I notice God at work? Maybe a conversation, a solution to a problem, the help we received from a friend or neighbor.

Give us today our daily bread

- What gifts have I received?

What are you grateful for? What gifts have you received? Your meal, your groceries, your bread. Thank God. Be specific.

Forgive us

- What needs confession?

What needs confession? Not generic, easy answers but honesty. It's been said "Bland confession is like taking a shower with your clothes on: you avoid the embarrassment of nakedness, but it's hard to get clean." John Ortberg.

As we forgive

- Who do I need to release?

Am I holding onto any resentments or bitterness? Forgiveness and love are a two-way street. If I shut down forgiveness, I close myself off. Let me be like the Sea of Galilee free flowing, not like the Dead Sea.

Deliver us

- Where do I need God's help tomorrow?

Finally—deliver us. What has my focus? Do I have fears or anxieties weighing on me? Where do I need help? Can I surrender that to God?