



The Lord's Prayer as a Guide Through the Psalms
Dominican Republic Mission Project, Trip 2007 Daily Study

My Dominican Comrades!

I am looking forward to what God will do in and through us in the DR. Please be in prayer that God will prepare you physically and spiritually and that He will accomplish something wonderful in your life by giving this time back to His service. I will be leading the Bible study each morning again. And yes, since all of you but the Lights are in my Sunday school class, I won't be reusing any old material this year so that you won't get a re-run.

In my own devotional and study time God has been leading me back again and again to the book of Psalms, and I have discovered a rich treasure trove of songs, praises, poems, solid doctrines, and practical living material. I recently read a letter preserved from an early church father, St. Athanasius, and he was writing to encourage a friend and believer to dig into the Psalms and learn to "speak Scripture." In fact, he organized the 150 Psalms into categories to be used in any and all of life's circumstance in which we can find ourselves.

I want to take the lead from the Holy Spirit and St. Athanasius and go back to the Psalms. The question is "Which ones do you choose?" I went back to Scripture for a road map. As I was reading the Lord's Prayer, it struck me that for each section of the prayer, one or more Psalms can be found that apply to it. Here's what I mean. I've divided the Lord's Prayer from Matthew 6 into 6 sections:

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| 1) <u>Praise</u> | "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name." & "For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen." |
| 2) <u>Expectation</u> | "Your kingdom come." |
| 3) <u>Submission</u> | "Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven." |
| 4) <u>Requests</u> | "Give us this day our daily bread." |
| 5) <u>Forgiveness</u> | "And forgive our debts, as we forgive our debtors." |
| 6) <u>Protection</u> | "And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one." |

Attached are 6 lesson handouts. Before each morning, spend some time in prayer. Read the Psalms and the hand-outs. Think. Meditate. I want this to be a discussion and sharing time, and I've tried guiding you along and giving you enough questions to get you thinking about our great God and your relationship to Him.

In His Service,

Gene Greiner
2 Timothy 4:2