

HALLOWED BE THY NAME

Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4

Individuals or groups may enjoy working through this content while having fellowship at home, while away on summer vacation, or in a Connect Group. We'll provide updated content from week to week this summer.

Our Father in heaven,

Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:

For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.

Amen

SUMMARY

The name of God is the sum of all his attributes and works of God. That's why the psalmist says that God has exalted above all things his name and his word (Ps 138:2). It's why the Old Testament so often speaks of God acting for his own name's sake (Ps 25:11; Isa 43:6-7; Ezek 10:14). To pray this prayer is to ask that God would do a miracle in our hearts, actions, and world so that his name would be set apart. It makes plain to God our chief desire: to praise and want all peoples to honor him. It's to like the whole world to see him for who he is. This prayer is, "O, God, may all the peoples praise you. Start with me, that I would know in my heart, and multiply it worldwide."

We exist to help connect **Jesus to people, people to community, and community to God's mission**. Here are a few insights about how The Lord's Prayer connects to our mission as a church. Let's discuss this text and the process of prayer.

JESUS TO PEOPLE...

Jesus connects us to God the Father, allowing us to address God as "Father" and recognize his holiness. By understanding and revering God's name, we can appreciate Jesus Christ for the specific ways that God loves us and is good to us. This recognition helps draw us closer to Jesus and fuels our prayers.

...PEOPLE TO COMMUNITY...

Once we are connected to Jesus personally, we can pray together for God's name to be

hallowed in our lives and church. By collectively allowing God's name, we strengthen our bonds within the church community. This act of worship fosters unity and a rich sense of belonging as we realize that it's not about our own individual preferences and opinions but about God and his great mission of restoration in the world.

...COMMUNITY TO MISSION

We love the holiness we proclaim and make God's name known, honored, and loved among our neighbors and the nations. As a community that lives out the holiness we proclaim, we serve as a witness to those around us. Our actions and attitudes reflect the reverence we have for God's name, drawing others to him. We aim to embody God's holiness and actively participate in God's mission of bringing his kingdom to earth. This includes the very practical means of evangelism, hospitality, good works, and generosity.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION

1. What does it mean to "hallow" something or someone?
2. How does "hallowing" relate to reverence, praise, and holiness?
3. Why might the concept of holiness be challenging to grasp in today's society?
4. What are some things you naturally praise in your daily life?
5. How does knowing God deeply enhance your ability to praise him?
6. How can you make your praises more specific and detailed?
7. How does praising God change your attitude and perspective?
8. Can you share a personal experience where reflecting on God's actions brought you peace or joy?
9. How can recounting God's deeds and character enhance your praise?
10. What do your praises reveal about your priorities and values?