

## *Tuesday's Touch ...#29*

*...from Pastor Ed ...August 11, 2009*

### *You Are What You Pray*

*Pray without ceasing... 1 Thes 5:17*

*Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God... Phil 4:6*

*In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Matt 6:9-10*

The “Lord’s Prayer” (Mat 6:9-13, et al) is a very comprehensive model of prayer. What strikes me, beyond the wealth of instruction about prayer that can be mined from it, is that it is a reflective description of those who are praying according to truth.

“*Our Father in heaven*” describes a **redeemed people** who have received the Spirit of adoption (Rom 8:15). While we glibly at times refer to God as our Father, this is an astounding address. This right has been purchased at the infinite expense of God’s own Son.

“*Hallowed be Your name*” indicates a **reverently worshipping people**,whelmed with the majesty and glory of God. A holy reverence for God must erupt into praise and worship in spirit and truth (John 4:24).

“*Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven*” is the expression of a **yielded and obedient people**. Inherent in this request is a heart-desire to be *doing* the will of the Father. It would be sheer hypocrisy to ask for God’s will to be done everywhere *except* in “my life.”

“*Give us this day our daily bread*” describes a **dependent and thankful people**. His people recognize that all of the necessities of each day come at the hands of a merciful and loving Father.

“*Forgive us our debts*” flows from the heart of a **repentant people**, who recognize their own sinfulness before the glory of God apart from the righteousness of Christ.

“*As we forgive others*” is the expression of a **merciful people** who, recognizing the infinite debt forgiven them, extend the love and mercy of God toward others. To be

without such mercy is to belie the unregenerate nature of one's own heart (Matt 6:14, James 2:13).

***“Do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil”*** is the cry of a **people desiring holiness**, who are striving against sin, and who know that only grace can provide the victory..

***“For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever”*** is the shout of a **people zealous for the glory of God**, who have “a God-entranced vision of all things” (*Edwards*), and who yearn to see Him put down all rule and authority and to take to himself that rightful position and glory which is His alone.

May we seriously consider that our prayer-life clearly reflects who we really are before God.

*We are what we pray, and we pray what we are.*

*Father of the Redeemed,*

*Grant that your Holy Spirit might work in us mightily, drawing us to fervent prayer in spirit and in truth. May we come boldly before the throne of grace (Heb 4:15-16). May we with true hearts of full assurance enter in to your presence by the new and living way purchased by the blood of your own Son (Heb 10:19-22).*

*In desperate need of quickening grace,*

*Amen*

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