

From "Most gracious heavenly Father" to Daddy

A message on prayer

By Marlene H Roessiger



One day, the Lord asked me this question: "Why is there no incense in your house." Knowing that incense, according **to Revelation 8:3**, means prayer, I started pondering this question. The Lord was getting ready to take us to a new level of intimacy with Him. Not because we were not praying enough, but because we were praying just as servants: we were decreeing, declaring, rebuking, binding and loosing. It is all good and "right", but He wants to show us how to pray, better yet, how to talk to Him as a friend: As a friend who is closer than a brother, a friend who knows when the other is sad, happy, excited, worried, hurt or when he just wants

some companionship through the darkest hour. That's when Jesus is looking for someone to rest His head upon (**Luke 9:58**) and confide to.

Yes! Jesus has feelings. And to know and to acknowledge that Jesus has a heart just like you and me is enough to break every religious mind set when we talk about prayer. Why do you want to learn "how" to pray? Because you want to be mighty men and women of prayer, or to increase "your" anointing, or to make your ministry bigger, or because you want to see "His" promises being fulfilled in your life? It's ok if you say "yes" to all these questions. But all of these will be added to you when you pursue one thing: TO KNOW THE HEART OF GOD.

How is He feeling right now? What is really bothering Him? Is He in agony with the wickedness of this world? Is He angry? Is He happy? Is He excited? As a good friend, we should go before God and ask Him, "Hey God, how are you doing today?" Jesus is still looking for friends. Friends that will stay next to him, sometimes doing nothing. Just tarrying with Him.

FRIENDS OF JESUS: THEY SIT AND WAIT ON HIM

Mark 14:32

³²And they came to a place which was named Gethsemane: and he saith to his disciples, Sit ye here, while I shall pray.

At first, He didn't say: fight with me. He said, "SIT HERE!" Stay next to me. Don't leave me alone. That's all he wants while HE PRAYS. But when He came back, they were all sleeping. What kind of friends were they? Jesus was going through a tough time. His soul was exceedingly sorrowful unto death. And all he wanted was to have someone there with Him. Someone to be awake with him for "one hour".

TEACH US HOW TO PRAY AS JOHN DID

Luke 11:1-4

¹And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.

How many more books do we need to read about prayer? How many more teachings, preaching, conferences about the subject do we have to get hold of? Imagine. All the disciples were of Jewish descent, and believe me, the Jews really know how to pray. I mean they know all the methods, meditations. Just go to the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem. I believe that when this disciple asked Jesus to teach him, He was expecting another "formula". Jesus prayed a prayer that was never heard before. And He prayed it one time according to the records.

What we see today is that religious people took a prayer that was born out of a deep intimacy with the father and made it into method, and we still use it just like that today. "Most gracious heavenly Father" still resounds until today as the most "religious" prayer ever. Everybody prays it, but only a few know what Jesus really meant by it. Actually, I've seen Catholics, Protestants, witches, and atheists praying this prayer very loudly in very good harmony.

Considering that every religion in the World has its own prayer, WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN OUR PRAYERS AND THEIR PRAYERS? For many of us, there is none. Because we don't know to WHOM we are praying. The Pharisees, Sadducees, and Jews are praying people. Did they know their GOD? They knew the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. But not their God.

Believe me, when Jesus prayed that prayer, I truly believe that something was going on in the heart of God. That the very heart of God compelled Him to say those words. He never intended to give them, or us, a "religious prayer".

We are surrounded by religious methods of prayer: we close our eyes when we pray, we bow our heads, sometimes kneel, we bless the food, we pray before go to bed, before we get up, we pray when somebody ask us to pray and we pray the way they want (Sister, pray so I can get a job, for example). Each one of us has a religious view of prayer. This needs to be broken so we can be free to be lovers, no longer prayers, but lovers of God. People that tarry with Him, watch, and pray when He is praying and stay silent when He is silent.

FROM SERVANTS TO FRIENDS OF JESUS

Mark 14:32

I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

The problem is that they, the disciples, were not united yet with Him. They were kind of Facebook friends. They were "friends" but they didn't really know Him. Until the Father gave revelation to Peter and until the Spirit came upon them. Jesus had to go to the cross and finish His race. He prayed to be glorified, He prayed for the disciples, and for His church in **John 17**.

He was talking about being one with them, just as He is one with the Father. We can have a powerful prayer meeting, but without being united, we can never have a loving connection with the Father that would lead us to say whatever is in HIS heart. It's impossible to pray effectively without having intimacy with "our father who art in heaven." When you start having daily intimacy with him, you will know. You will start seeing HIM praying through you. You will say things that are totally opposite to

your nature. You will get great revelation of GOD, as a Father, of JESUS, as a bridegroom, of THE SPIRIT, as a person who helps us on WHAT to say!

THE HOLY SPIRIT: SHOW US WHAT TO PRAY

Romans 8:26-27

²⁶Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not **WHAT** we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. ²⁷And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

You can find many books teaching you HOW to pray but never WHAT to pray because the Spirit of God is the only one, and remember this, the only one who was entrusted with this task. A lot of people talk about HOW, and we have been following their instructions for so long. It's about time to go back to the premises and learn from the Spirit of GOD WHAT TO PRAY.

Everything starts with humility. Confess to the Lord, "No, Lord, I don't know WHAT to pray." You can be a leader, a big minister, a leader of your home, or of a home group. It doesn't matter.

Even Jesus himself could not teach them WHAT to say. We can learn from men HOW TO PRAY but only by the SPIRIT WHAT to pray. Jesus had to send His Holy Spirit and baptize them with HIM and fire! Now they and we go to another mind: the mind of the Spirit.

If I teach you HOW: it goes from knowledge to knowledge (like teaching you how to pray in Portuguese). But if He teaches you WHAT: it's from His spirit to your Spirit.

1 Corinthians 2:10-12

¹⁰But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. ¹¹For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

Now we not only have the mind of the Spirit but are united with HIM through the cross and HIS blood. Now, we can know the deepest things of God. We can go beyond, "Most gracious heavenly Father," to, "Daddy, how has your day been today?"

Who can know the heart of the Father better than the Son. Now WE have it as well. We have the spirit of adoption. He poured out on us, the house of David, the spirit of grace and supplication. **Zechariah 12:10**

NOW ABOUT "THE HOW"...Forget about it. Wait upon HIM. Maybe He will give you groans, maybe you will cry, laugh, maybe he will give you a scripture, a song, maybe a poem, maybe He will give you nothing. Maybe just silence. Whatever He gives to you, embrace it. Whatever He gives to you is coming straight from the right hand of God, where He is sitting. Now we can pray according to the will of God; according to the very heart of God. Now we can join the greatest intercessor (John 8:34), who sits at the right hand of God interceding for us 24/7 by the Spirit, and we know EXACTLY WHAT TO PRAY because we are one with HIM and He made us His friends.

We don't pray out of fear, worries, out of methods, any more.

We don't bring our prayer list before HIM because He already has His.

We don't pray the Word according to our will.

We pray the will of God according to HIS Word.

We don't pray to God. We pray WITH God.

Actually, we don't pray. He prays through us.

When we pray the words that come from my mouth will be HIS WORDS, if we abide in HIM.

John 15:7 If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you,

ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

John 8:38 ³⁸I speak that which I have seen with my Father:

John 12:49 ⁴⁹For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak.

WHY HE TELLS US TO PRAY: HE IS SAYING "TALK TO ME, TALK TO ME, TALK TO ME...I WANT TO TALK TO YOU, I WANT TO TALK TO YOU..."

PRAY MEANS CONVERSATION, TALKING, COMUNICATION, FELLOWSHIP. You say/pray He says/prays. Just like in the garden. He is coming in the cool of the day to talk, to hang out with you. Genesis 3:8. HE WANTS TO BE WITH YOU AND SHARE HIS HEART WITH YOU. STAY NEXT TO HIM, THAT'S ALL. He wants to share the joy of bringing HIS KINGDOM down to you and through you. That's how HIS JOY WILL BE COMPLETE.

In the House of God, in the HOUSE OF PRAYER we find many ANNA's...Women and men who don't depart from THE TEMPLE, from God's presence, and who serve God with fasting and prayers night and day. Anna was a lover! She was sitting before God's presence. Day and night! Who compelled her to do it...Religion?! No. A heart full of affection towards God. Luke 2:36-38

The more you know HIM, the more you want to know HIM, the more you pray. You can do nothing unless you humble yourself and ask HIM to draw you and give you

the spirit of grace and supplication, to give you the burning desire to be with Him and to fill your heart with thanksgiving; so you will say a little prayer when you see a bird flying by you, not only when you have a meal on your table.

Praying according to the will of God brings justice, judgment, and transformation. It brings HIS KINDGOM AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS DOWN here just AS IT IS IN HEAVEN. Jesus fully man, fully God, prayed this prayer being fully man – He showed his weakness, fear, pain, agony – fully God – Your will, Abba Father, Daddy, be done. He had emotions, but he didn't dwell on them. He talked to His Daddy.

Mark 14:36

And he said, Abba, Father, all things are possible unto thee; take away this **cup from me**: nevertheless not what I will, but what thou wilt.

Jesus prayed this prayer three times. And three times, He was looking for someone to be with Him, to endure the dark hour, to be part of what God was about to do. Are you willing to watch and pray, to tarry for one hour, maybe two, maybe He will desire to be with you throughout the night. Are you willing? Do you really want to be His friend? Do you want to know the secrets of His heart? He is still seeking for those who will not sleep. The bridegroom is coming. Who will watch with Him for one hour? Those who have their affections set on HIM. Some will tarry with Him during the prayer meeting. Some will tarry with HIM during their own hard time. Some will tarry with HIM when their own faith is failing. But some will tarry with HIM just because they are love sick and to be without Him is worse than death. Those, when they pray, their words are pure. They are like sweet incense. **Psalms 141:2**. Their words go up, and we can hear through their voices, thundering, lightning, earthquakes. That's God responding to HIS own prayers done by all HIS lovers.

Revelation 8:3-5

“Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day...”Genesis 3:8

Can you hear Him coming again, today, right now, to His own garden? He is getting closer. He wants to hang out with you in the cool of the day. “In the cool of the day” might be in the morning, in the afternoon, in the night. Now is the cool of the day...Let’s sit next to Him and hear what He has to say. Genesis 3:8

We love you,

Keep your eyes on your beloved and on Him alone.

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