

Matthew 6:5-8
Lord Teach us to Pray

Introduction:

The story told of George Whitefield the Calvinistic evangelist and John Wesley the Arminian evangelist who shared a room together both were engaged in prayer but a rather different perspective...

I. Praying the Wrong Way

A. Praying to oneself – Luke 18:10-14

1. Pharisaical hypocrisy
2. Impressing others with our prayer – Turn To: Matthew 23:1-10

B. Posture in prayer – Mark 11:25; 26:39; Acts 21:5; II Sam. 7:18

C. Praying in secret – v. 6

D. Repetition in prayer – v.7 cf. Luke 26:36-46; Luke 18:1

1. Do not imitate the pagans – Turn To: I Kings 18:27-39

E. Not Verbatim

1. Praying in this manner
2. Not meaningless repetition (William Barclay)
3. Subtle approach (Islam and Roman Catholic theology)

II. Praying the Right Way

A. Realize you are approaching God (Acts 1:14; 2:42; 3:1; 6:4) Psalms 86:11

B. Realize you are in the presence of God – Hebrews 3:14-16

C. Realize God is our Father – v.8 cf.

1. The greatest gift – Luke 11:9-11
2. Be filled with the Spirit – Eph. 5:18-20
3. Cast your prayers on Jesus – I Peter 5:7

D. Kingdom parables – Turn to: Matthew 13:44-50

1. Productivity
2. Judgment