

PRAYER begins with a **GOD-CENTERED FOCUS** ... **ONLY THEN** with the 'right focus' are we ready to address our concerns, including:

6. FOR THE PRESENT -- PROVISION:

Daily Bread

7. FOR THE PAST -- PARDON:

Forgive our sins

8. FOR THE FUTURE -- PROTECTION:

Temptation; deliver from evil

AND, having begun with a God-centered focus -- THEN, making our petitions-- FINALLY,

10. PRAYER RESULTS IN PRAISE: *Thine is the kingdom, the power, the glory, forever*

**SERIES: LEARNING TO PRAY,
FROM THE MASTER**

GRANDVILLE BIBLE CHURCH

4122 – 44th St. S. W.

Grandville, MI 49418

www.grandvillebible.org -- 616/532-3118

Learning To Pray From The MASTER



If we thought about it for just a moment, we'd agree that we live in an age of self-promotion. Companies advertise their products. Entertainers have their agents and publicists. Politicians put themselves forward as the ones who can accomplish the best for the public. Employees position themselves for promotions before the boss. Athletes celebrate their skill with crazy antics. Men and women dress so as to call attention to themselves.

In Western society at least, we are completely fascinated with ourselves, with who we are and with what we do and how we think. If someone were to simply step back and look at it objectively, they might think that self-promotion was one of the governing laws of the universe without which society would collapse. If you can somehow make yourself look good either physically or through your reputation, you have the opportunity to get ahead. You just have to distinguish yourself by making what you do or what you say seem more important to others.

Unfortunately, such thinking -- goes to the depths of vanity with self-congratulation, self-love, self-advancement -- but also filters from our inner being, to the breadth of our relationships, and heights of our relationship with God.

Our Lord challenged our thinking about what it means to 'pray.' He reminded us that it is not the quantity of words, but the quality of requests that is important. We should take into consideration the following when we pray ...

PRAYER'S HEIGHTS: as we mount to throne:
heaven, His name, His kingdom, His will

PRAYER'S BREADTH: as it encompasses the church as a whole: *us, our*

PRAYER'S DEPTH ... the deep things we each and all are concerned about and face: *bread, trespass, temptation, evil*

PRAYER'S LENGTH: since it embraces all of God's concerns: *His kingdom, His power, His glory*

We would like to invite you to join us starting on **JANUARY 8, SUNDAY EVENINGS AT 6:00 PM**, as we focus on the Lord's Prayer,* in *Matthew 6:9-13*, to discover prayer as God intended it to be:

1. **PRAYER INVOLVES A RELATIONSHIP:**
Our Father
2. **PRAYER INVOLVES REVERENCE:**
Hallowed be Your name
3. **PRAYER INVOLVES RECOGNITION:**
Your kingdom come
4. **PRAYER INVOLVES RESPONSIVENESS:**
Your will be done