

“We Cry, ‘Abba! Father!’”:
Prayer & the Doctrine of Adoption
Orphan Sunday 2020
Sermon Notes

➤ **Few truths can fire up your prayer life faster than a clear grasp of the biblical doctrine of adoption**

**3 applications for prayer in light of our adoption in Christ ...*

1. Engage God as Father (Jeremiah 3:19; Psalm 103:13; Matthew 6:6, 8-9; Romans 8:15; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 2:18)

2. Pour out your heart (Psalm 89:26; Isaiah 63:16; 64:8; Mark 14:36; Ephesians 5:20; Colossians 3:17; Matthew 6:14-15)

3. Show him his handwriting (Matthew 6:32-33; 7:7-11; John 16:23-24; Acts 1:4; Luke 11:11-13; Ephesians 3:14-19; James 1:17; 2 Corinthians 1:20)

Next Week: Ecclesiastes 3:9-15 - “He Has Put Eternity Into Man’s Heart”

MEFC Community Group Study Guide

For the week of November 8th-14th

Many years ago, John Piper compiled a list of all for which the church in the New Testament prayed. The original list is found in his book, Let the Nations Be Glad!: The Supremacy of God in Missions. The prayer guide below is an edited version from an article called: “What Should We Pray For?”¹ In your personal devotions, family worship, or community group study, take some time to work through the following prayer guide, looking up the references, discussing, and praying them as you go. At the end, there are some questions for further reflection. Enjoy!

- Pray that God would exalt his name in the world (Matthew 6:9)
- Pray that God would extend his kingdom in the world (Matthew 6:10)
- Pray for the fullness of the Holy Spirit (Luke 11:13)
- Pray that God would vindicate his people in their cause (Luke 18:7)
- Pray that God would save unbelievers (Romans 10:1)
- Pray that God would direct the use of the sword (Ephesians 6:17-18)
- Pray for boldness in proclamation (Ephesians 6:18-19; Acts 4:29)
- Pray for the healing of wounded comrades (James 5:14-15)
- Pray for the healing of unbelievers (Acts 28:8)
- Pray for miraculous deliverances (Acts 12:5, 12; 16:25-26)
- Pray that God would supply his troops with necessities (Matthew 6:11)
- Pray for strategic wisdom (James 1:5; 3:17)
- Pray that God would establish leadership in the outposts (Acts 14:23)
- Pray that God would send out reinforcements (Matthew 9:38; Acts 13:2-3)
- Pray for the success of other missionaries (Romans 15:30-31)
- Pray for unity and harmony in the ranks (John 17:20-21)
- Pray for the encouragement of togetherness (1 Thessalonians 3:10)
- Pray for a mind of discernment (Philippians 1:9-10)
- Pray for a knowledge of God’s will (Colossians 1:9)

1 <https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/what-should-we-pray-for> . Accessed 11/5/20 @ 9:45pm.

- Pray to know God better (Colossians 1:10; Ephesians 1:17)
- Pray to comprehend the love of Christ (Ephesians 3:14, 18-19)
- Pray for a deeper sense of assured hope (Ephesians 1:16, 18)
- Pray for strength and endurance (Colossians 1:11; Ephesians 3:16)
- Pray for a deeper sense of God's power within you (Ephesians 1:16, 18-19)
- Pray that your faith not be destroyed (Luke 22:32; 21:36)
- Pray for greater faith (Mark 9:24; Ephesians 3:17)
- Pray that you might not fall into temptation (Matthew 6:13; 26:41)
- Pray that God would complete your good resolves (2 Thessalonians 1:11)
- Pray that you would do good works (Colossians 1:10)
- Pray for the forgiveness of your sins (Matthew 6:12)
- Pray for protection from the evil one (Matthew 6:13)

A prayer list like this one can be eye-opening, convicting, clarifying, as well as motivating...

- Which of these prayers were least common for you to pray? Why?**
- Which of these prayers were most encouraging for you to pray? Why?**
- Which of these prayers were the most uncomfortable for you to pray? Why?**
- Which of these prayers would you most like others to pray for you? How come?**
- Which of these prayers seems most critical for the church in the midst of 2020? Will you commit to praying them?**
- Are there any prayers found in Scripture that are precious to you that you'd like to add to this list? Which one(s)? Please share them with the group.**