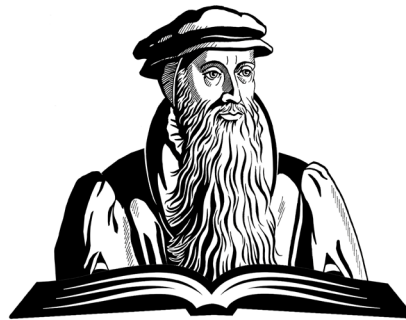


STUDY GUIDE
for
The Lord's Prayer

A VIDEO LECTURE SERIES

by Rev. Gerald Procee

Lecture #12
Prayer Life of Pastors



The John Knox Institute
of Higher Education

John Knox Institute of Higher Education

Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide

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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from the Authorized King James Version.

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Rev. Gerald Procee (1953–2024) was a minister of the Gospel, who faithfully served the congregations of Opperdoes, Hamilton, Middelharnis, and Dundas.

STUDY GUIDE FOR

The Lord's Prayer

14 Lectures

by Rev. Gerald Procee

1. Introduction: Biblical Foundation and Course Outline
2. Our Father Which Art in Heaven
3. Hallowed Be Thy Name
4. Thy Kingdom Come
5. Thy Will Be Done in Earth as it is in Heaven
6. Give us This Day Our Daily Bread
7. Forgive us Our Debts, As We Forgive Our Debtors
8. Lead Us Not into Temptation, but Deliver Us from Evil
9. For Thine is the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory
10. Amen
11. Practical Issues Regarding Prayer
12. Prayer Life of Pastors
13. Difficulties in Prayer
14. Blessings of Prayer

STUDY GUIDE

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The Lord's Prayer

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Lecture #12

Prayer Life of Pastors

Scripture Text

"Pray without ceasing."—1 Thessalonians 5:17

Key Points

1. All Christians are called to pray, but especially pastors—men of prayer.
 - a. Biblical examples
 - b. Ministers are also weak people in themselves and need to pray for themselves.
 - 1) For faithfulness to God's Word; to preach and teach the Word of God.
 - 2) Need fresh installments of God's grace.
 - c. Ministers must pray for the individuals in their congregation.
 - d. Ministers and office-bearers should pray for one another.
2. Encouragements for pastors to pray.
 - a. Examples from Hudson Taylor and James Fraser.
 - b. Examples from Apostle Paul in New Testament.
 - c. Pastors need unction of the Holy Spirit that is only received by way of prayer.
 - d. Every pastor must humble himself more than others, asking for power from on high.
 - e. Indwelling sin has a more severe impact on ministers of Christ.
3. The pastor must practice intercessory prayer.
 - a. He should mention the members of the congregation by name.
 - b. Pray with expectation and zeal.
 - c. Must be earnest in prayer; take the kingdom of heaven with violence.

- d. Pray with faith, trusting in God's care.
 - e. Pray for the honor of God's name.
4. Personal holiness is requisite; dependence on God; piety; Christ-likeness; devoted to God.
 - a. The love of Christ must live in the heart of the pastor.
 - b. The pastor's personal prayer closet is a storehouse where he will be renewed and refreshed and where he may commune with the Lord Jesus.
 - c. The pastor must be filled with the Holy Spirit to be kept from falling in God's service.
 5. Warnings to pastors about the dangers of neglecting personal prayer.
 6. Final encouragements toward faithfulness in prayer to all ministers of Christ.

Review Questions

1. Why are Christian pastors especially called to pray? How do the apostles speak of this in their epistles?

2. Who are the people that pastors should pray for? Why?

3. How was prayer important in the missionary work of men like Hudson Taylor and James Fraser? (If you haven't heard of them, we encourage you to read about their lives.)

4. What did the Apostle Paul say about the importance of prayer in his ministry?

5. How does a pastor's prayer life affect his calling to preach the Word of God? Is the pastor dependent on God to give him the power to preach?

6. Do pastors also have indwelling sin and weakness in their flesh? How should this motivate them to pray?

7. What should the pastor include in his prayers? What things should he be praying for?

8. What should a pastor be like in his personal life? How will that affect his ministry?

9. Why is the power of the Holy Spirit needed in the ministry of a pastor? Can you see this in the earthly ministry of the Lord Jesus? And of the apostles?

10. What dangers are there for a pastor if he neglects his personal private prayer? How will that affect his ministry and his church? What should a pastor do if he is neglecting prayer?

Personal Reflections

1. Whether you are a pastor or not, what is your personal prayer life like? If you are a pastor, we trust you have been greatly encouraged by this lecture on the importance of your private prayers. If you are not a pastor, these teachings are still applicable for your prayer life. We especially encourage you to pray much for your pastor.

2. Can you see the connection between your personal prayer life and your current spiritual state? As Rev. Procee said, none of us can know how poor we are in comparison to what we might have been, if we had lived habitually closer to God in prayer. If you have neglected prayer, how will you amend your ways now?
