

Capturing God's Heart: Insights from the Lord's Prayer



Scripture

Matt. 6: 12-13

And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen

Other Scriptures

- Matthew 25: 14-30
- 2 Chron. 16:9
- Luke 23:24

Main Points

- The heart of Jesus captures the heart of God.
- Unless we know who God is, we can't capture His heart.
- We can capture God's heart by walking in obedience to our revelation of Him.
- If you want to capture God's heart, you can't carry a heart of unforgiveness.
- The degree that we are holding on to unforgiveness is the degree that we are hindering Jesus from moving in our lives.
- Is there anyone in your life that you may be withholding forgiveness from?
- We must keep our eyes focused on Jesus in order to fully forgive others without falling into a spirit of offense again.
- We can ask God to protect us from being exposed to an evil that might overwhelm us.
- Jesus, we love you. Thank You for all that You have done and will do.

Rabbi's prayer:

Father God, lead me not into temptation. Lord, protect me from being exposed to evils and to temptations that I wouldn't be able to successfully handle.

Father I ask you to deliver me from evil. Deliver me from darkness; deliver me from the power of evil. Thank you Father God!

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Discussion Questions

1. Jesus' instructions for prayer help us to know exactly how He, as God's Son, captured His Father's heart. He meant for us to pray as He did. How does this prayer help you know who God is and what He values and considers most important for our walk with God here on earth?
2. Why do you think forgiveness is so important to God? Why does He expect us to forgive others as we have been forgiven? Listen to the Holy Spirit's direction right now. Are there persons who need your forgiveness? Consider Rabbi's method of imagining Jesus on the cross with those persons in your periphery vision. Take care of these matters immediately.
3. How critical is it that God can be petitioned to and counted on to deliver us from evil? Have you ever consciously prayed for this as Jesus instructed us too? Make a point to begin today to pray for that.
4. Last of all, recognizing that Jesus is King over every created thing and it is His kingdom that will ultimately prevail on earth. We began the prayer with the recognition of His Kingship and we end with the same. He is the One to whom we bow. How does this elevate this prayer to a place of worship?
Take a few minutes to exalt this King of ours!