



## CONSCIOUS AND INTENTIONAL MINISTRY: MINISTRY TO ME

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thessalonians 5:23

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PASTOR MARTIN CHILDS, JR.

TEXT: MATTHEW 6:5-13

TITLE: PRAY LIKE THIS

### INTRODUCTION

- A. Do not pray like that \_\_\_\_\_
1. Like the hypocrites – They pray to be seen
  2. Like the heathens – They pray to be heard
- B. Pray like this \_\_\_\_\_
1. “The Lord’s Prayer”
  2. For many, the first or second prayer they learned

### OUR

- A. “Our” Takes prayer out of the individual realm \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Prayer unifies us \_\_\_\_\_

### OUR FATHER

- A. Prayer unifies us as family \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Prayer unifies us as God’s Family \_\_\_\_\_
1. We are all God’s Creation – **Psalm 24:1** <sup>1</sup> *The earth is the Lord’s, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell therein.*
  2. Some are God’s Children – **John 1:12**, <sup>12</sup> *But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:*
  3. Some are God’s Sons and Daughters – **Romans 8:14**, <sup>14</sup> *For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons [daughters] of God.*
- C. We pray to ‘Our Father’ \_\_\_\_\_
1. Not to the atmosphere or ancestors
  2. “Our” – When I pray, I am thinking about “Us”
- D. Although we are taught to say, “Father,” we understand that our infinite, immortal, eternal and celestial God cannot be contained in a finite, mortal, temporal and terrestrial existence. \_\_\_\_\_

### OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN

- A. Our Father is distant enough: To elicit respect, awe, wonder, honor... \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Our Father is near enough: To know personally and intimately \_\_\_\_\_
- C. Elders, “He sits high, and looks low” \_\_\_\_\_
- D. Although we consider God residing in heaven, we also understand that God is not limited to a specific geographical location \_\_\_\_\_
1. **1 Kings 8:27**, <sup>27</sup> *“But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain You. How much less this temple which I have built!*
  2. **Jeremiah 23:23, 24**, <sup>23</sup> *“Am I a God near at hand,” says the Lord, “And not a God afar off? <sup>24</sup> Can anyone hide himself in secret places, So I shall not see him?” says the Lord; “Do I not fill heaven and earth?” says the Lord.*