

## **Fully Committed: The Power of Prayer (Forgiveness)**

**Matthew 6:1-13** Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven. <sup>2</sup> Therefore when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. <sup>3</sup> But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: <sup>4</sup> That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly. <sup>5</sup> And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. <sup>6</sup> But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. <sup>7</sup> But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. <sup>8</sup> Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him. <sup>9</sup> After this manner therefore pray ye: **Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. <sup>10</sup> Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. <sup>11</sup> Give us this day our daily bread. <sup>12</sup> And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. <sup>13</sup> And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Good morning beloved. Giving honor to God who woke us up this morning and started us on our way. Giving Honor to Jesus the Christ, who paid it all for us. Giving honor to the Holy Spirit who is already moving from heart to heart and breast to breast. You put food on the table and clothes on our backs. In the midst of all that's going on in the world... You keep right on Blessing Us. I'm convinced and I believe I've got a witness this morning in Spring Hope, N.C. that Prayer moves Mountains. You've been my friend, My Burden Bearer, My Peace in the Middle of the Storm. Jesus, I just want to "Thank You" because you've been so Good....

In this text, Jesus teaches many great lessons. Today, we would like to focus on verses 9-13. Many theologians commonly refer to the text as the model

prayer. In fact, as we look at the text, it teaches us how to approach God in prayer. I would like to tag this text "Fully Committed."

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. *Firstly, we must understand that God is truly our father. He sits high (Heaven) and looks low. He is a Holy God. His name is Holy.* <sup>10</sup> Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. *We are praying with understanding that the Kingdom of Heaven will come to us and that the divine will of God will be done in the earthly realm, as it is in the heavenly realm.* <sup>11</sup> Give us this day our daily bread. *God, you woke us up and started us on our way. You feed us, clothed us, and provided for us.* <sup>12</sup> And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. *Forgive us of our sins as we forgive others who have sinned against us.* <sup>13</sup> And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: God keep us from falling into temptation and keep us in your net of safety from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen. *God, it is through You that the Kingdom reigns with power and glory forever. Amen.*

*How do you know if you're dealing with unforgiveness? Has anyone ever walked into the room and it changed your mood? Have you ever shared your secrets with someone who betrayed you and you still haven't been able to get over it? Are you still mad at her because she tried to date your boyfriend in high school? Are you still mad at him because he tried to date your girlfriend in high school? You've got to understand that what's in front of you is greater than what's behind you. Let it Go. Let it Go. Let it Go.*

*You can't get to the next level of Blessing that God has in store for you because you're still dealing with the current issue that you need to leave behind you. I remember that I was driving a car and the engine started shutting down. I would fix this and I would fix that and kept dealing with this and kept dealing with that, only to understand that the Lord was opening my eyes to say "Let it Go." It was a major blessing waiting for me, but I had to let the old stuff go. You See, something happens in the midst of us not letting go called "Time." One day turns into a week, a year, a decade, etc. Before you know it a whole lifetime has gone by. My brother and sisters, I had to let it go.*

*When I did, "Good God Almighty." A major blessing was right there just for me. I'm telling you to "Let it Go." The Word of God says, "I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you."(Joel 2:25)*

*Anybody need restoration??? Yes, Yes, Yes. Tell the truth and stay in church.*

*Forgiveness is for Us. By freeing the other person and forgiving them; it frees us. It empowers us to grow, love, and live.*

***(Matthew 6:14-15)***

***<sup>14</sup>For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:***

***<sup>15</sup> But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.***

In closing, a pig and a chicken were walking down the road. Ahead was a grocery store. They posted a sign which read, "We are sorry, we have No Ham and No Eggs." The chicken looked at the pig and said, "We can really help them during a time of crisis. Immediately, the pig looked at the chicken and said you're simply making a contribution (eggs), but I have to be fully committed to this thing (Ham). On our Christian journey, we too, must be fully committed to Christ. Jesus asked, "What profit would it be to you if you have it all in this life, and are held in great honor and esteem, yet lose your soul? (Mark 8:36). Make sure to live your life connected with Jesus Christ.

While Jesus was on the cross, He said "Father forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." Lord, forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Create in us a clean heart and renew in us a right spirit. We want to be fully committed to You.