

Ask for the Love of God for God
The Lord's Prayer – Part 5

Luke 11:2; Coast Community Church; Pastor Earl Miles; 10-15-17

The Text

It happened that while Jesus was praying in a certain place, after He had finished, one of His disciples said to Him, “Lord, teach us to pray just as John also taught his disciples.” And He said to them, “When you pray, say: ‘Father, **hallowed be Your name**. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, For we ourselves also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation.’” – Luke 11:1-4

To ask God to hallow His name is to ask God to cause us to set Him apart in our hearts and lives as the One in whom we ultimately rest and hope and thus, supremely love.

The Point

Ask God to give you His love for God!

The Argument from Scripture

Four Questions:

Why do I argue that to ‘hallow God’s name’ means to love God uniquely and supremely – like God loves God?

²² The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one; ²³ I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me. ²⁴ Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵ “O righteous Father, although the world has not known You, yet I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me; ²⁶ and **I have made Your name known to them, and will make it known, so that the love with which You loved Me may be in them,** and I in them.” –John 17:22-26

Arguably the greatest prayer of all concludes with God the Son, Jesus, asking God the Father to give us the Father’s love for the Son (God’s love for God) through the true knowledge of Him.

What does it mean to love God?

¹⁴ We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death. ¹⁵ Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer; and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him. ¹⁶ **We know love by this, that He laid down**

His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. ¹⁷ But whoever has the world's goods, and sees his brother in need and closes his heart against him, how does the love of God abide in him? ¹⁸ Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth. – 1 John 3:14-18

To love is to desire another's good and to pursue another's good, even at great cost to myself.

To love God is to desire His glory and to pursue His pleasure, even at great cost to myself.

What does a failure to love God look like?

³ You shall have no other gods before Me. ⁴ You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth. ⁵ You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me, ⁶ but showing lovingkindness to thousands, **to those who love Me** and keep My commandments. ⁷ You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not leave him unpunished who takes His name in vain. ⁸ Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. – Exodus 20:3-8

Our greatest danger is to love anything or anyone more than God.

Why is it important to pray for the love of God?

To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: The One who holds the seven stars in His right hand, the One who walks among the seven golden lampstands, says this: 'I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot tolerate evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them *to be* false; and you have perseverance and have endured for My name's sake, and have not grown weary. But I have *this* against you, that **you have left your first love**. Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first; or else I am coming to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place—unless you repent. – Revelation 2:1-5

Our greatest need is to love God more than anything or anyone.

How do I know if I have any love for God at all?

- Are you resting in Jesus alone for your righteousness before God?
- Are you hoping in God for the help you need and the happiness you desire?
- Are you pursuing the love of God and others through devotion to God's Word with God's people?