

**Praying for God's Glory**  
**Matthew 6:5-8**

**I. We Should Not Pray Like the Hypocrites (vss. 5-6)**

Examples of public prayer:

John 11:41b-42; Acts 1:24; 12:12; 20:36

As D. A. Carson has observed, "The public versus private antithesis is a good test of one's motives; the person who prays more in public than in private reveals that he is less interested in God's approval than in human praise" (EBC, Vol.8, p. 165).

**II. We Should Not Pray Like the Heathen (vss. 7-8)**

Examples of vain repetition:

1 Kings 18:25-27; Acts 19:33-34

Examples of acceptable lengthy or repeated prayers:

Luke 6:12; 11:1-4; 18:1-7; Matthew 26:39-44; Luke 11:1-4

Example of prayer that recognizes God for who He truly is:

Psalm 139:1-12

As Martyn Lloyd-Jones once observed concerning Jesus' teaching:

[God] is everywhere. "Take heed that ye do not your righteousness before men." Why? "Else ye have no reward with your Father which is in heaven." He sees it all. He knows your heart; other people do not. You can deceive them, and you can persuade them that you are quite selfless; but God knows your heart... I sometimes feel that there is no better way of living, and trying to live, the holy and sanctified life than just to be constantly reminding ourselves of that. When we wake up in the morning we should immediately remind ourselves that we are in the presence of God. It is not a bad thing to say to ourselves before we go any further: "Throughout the whole of this day, everything I do, and say, and attempt, and think, and imagine, is going to be done under the eye of God. He is going to be with me; He sees everything; He knows everything. There is nothing I can do or attempt but God is fully aware of it all. "Thou God seest me." It would revolutionize our lives if we always did that. (As cited by Kent Hughes, *The Sermon on the Mount*, p. 150-151)