

Daily Devotional, July 16, 2020 God Knows Our Needs Before We Do

“And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. “This, then, is how you should pray: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one.” Matthew 6:5-13 (NIV)

As a father, I know my children pretty well. I learned their particular uniqueness, their disparities as they moved from birth to young adulthood. I could not only understand them better than they thought, but I could often anticipate what they were going to do, say, be tempted with the most, and even, to some extent, how they would respond. I knew many times that they would need certain things even before they did. You know what your child needs when they are going off to college for the first time, and anticipate their needs for particular toiletries, linens, electronic essentials, etc., so you help pack these things for them.

In the same manner, our Heavenly Father knows us much better than I could possibly have known my children. He knows our needs even before we call on Him.

“Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear. (Isaiah 65:24).

However, He still wants us to pray. Prayer is not informing God of our needs. It is opening our eyes to how He is able to meet our needs because of His knowledge of us. God knows us much better than our parents. God does not have to anticipate our needs; He knows them. Our Heavenly Father has already made provision for what we have need of. Even before we knew we *had* a need, He already knew and had made provision for us.

Prayer is all about talking with God, communing with God, spending time with God, and petitioning God. God wants us to learn more about Him -- to talk and spend time with Him -- to pour out our hearts to Him. Now, more than ever, take some time and spend some time in prayer. God is ready to show His strength through our weakness.

Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. ” Matthew 6:8

Prayer: Lord Jesus, I am grateful for this day that you have made, for I am assured you will fulfill my every need according to your will. I know the plans you have for me and I praise and worship You that my destiny is established and my dreams fulfilled, knowing that all the desires of my heart will be granted if they are in line with your will. I wake up this morning knowing that your favor is upon my life. I have hope and I'm filled with expectancy each and every day, knowing that you hear my prayers before they are even spoken. Today, may I find favor in You. In Jesus' Name, Amen!