

# THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

## Prayer

**6** <sup>5</sup>—When you pray, do not be like those who want to be seen. They love to stand and pray in the synagogues or on street corners to be seen by everyone. I assure you, they have already been paid in full. <sup>6</sup>When you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father who is with you in secret; and your Father who sees what is kept secret will reward you.

<sup>7</sup>When you pray, do not use a lot of words, as the pagans do, for they hold that the more they say, the more chance they have of being heard. <sup>8</sup>Do not be like them. Your Father knows what you need, even before you ask him.

<sup>9</sup>This, then, is how you should pray:

Our Father in heaven,

holy be your name,

<sup>10</sup>your kingdom come

and your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

<sup>11</sup>Give us today our daily bread.

<sup>12</sup>Forgive us our debts

just as we have forgiven those who are in debt to us.

<sup>13</sup>Do not bring us to the test

but deliver us from the evil one.'

<sup>14</sup>—If you forgive others their wrongs, your Father in heaven will also forgive yours. <sup>15</sup>If you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive you either.

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