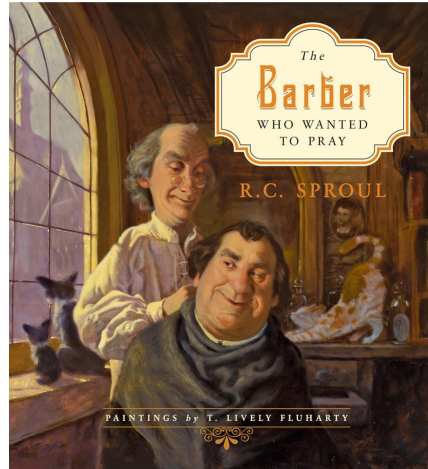


Session Three: Luther's 'Simple Way'

*The Story*²⁶



The Way

The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:5–15 And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. Pray then like this:

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts,

²⁶ RC Sproul, "The Barber Who Wanted to Pray," (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2011); audio available for free at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X8TMxoZYD2g>.

as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Avoid:

Hypocrites

Performance and praise

Public-private divide, *not* feelings

Pagans

Vain Repetition (βατταλογέω, *battalogo*)

Manipulation

Address:

Πάτερ ἡμῶν

Paternoster

Petitions:

God's glory

1 Name

Heidelberg Catechism (*Lord's Day 47*)²⁷

Q: What is the first petition?

A: *Hallowed be your name*

That is

Grant us first of all:

that we might rightly know you,²⁸

²⁷ <https://www.heidelberg-catechism.com/en/lords-days/47.html>

and sanctify, glorify, and praise you,
in all your works
in which shine forth
your almighty power
wisdom, goodness, righteousness,
mercy, and truth²⁹

Grant us also:

that we may so direct our whole life—
our thoughts, words, and actions—
that your name is not blasphemed because of us,
but always honoured and praised.³⁰

2 Kingdom (reign and rule, redemptive presence on earth)

Church as kingdom outpost

Establish/Expand/Grow vs. Receive/Come/Arrive

3 Will

The Messianic Age

Our good

4 Provision

“Give” = honoring the Giver

Daily (Proverbs 30:8–9)

Remove far from me falsehood and lying;

give me neither poverty nor riches;

feed me with the food that is needful for me,

lest I be full and deny you

and say, “Who is the LORD?”

or lest I be poor and steal

and profane the name of my God.

²⁸ Jer 9:23, 24; 31:33, 34; Mt 16:17; Jn 17:3.

²⁹ Ez 34:5-8; Ps 145; Jer 32:16-20; Lk 1:46-55, 68-75; Rom 11:33-36.

³⁰ Ps 115:1; Mt 5:16.

5 Forgiveness

Vertical—we owe an unpayable debt

Horizontal—forgiven people forgive (not therapeutic, but just)

6 Protection

Temptation

a Trials (temptation as suffering – James 1:2, 13)

b External—the world and the devil

c Internal—indwelling sin

Concluding Ascription:

Matthew 6:13 (KJV) And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: *For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, for ever. Amen.*

1 Chronicles 29:10–13 Therefore David blessed the LORD in the presence of all the assembly. And David said: “Blessed are you, O LORD, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever. Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head above all. Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all. And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name.

The Ten Commandments

Catholic/Lutheran vs. Reformed Structure

Exodus 20:1–17 And God spoke all these words, saying,

“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. (J1, R preface)

You shall have no other gods before me. (R 1, O 1)

You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments. (R 2, C/L 1, J 2, O 2)

You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain. (R 3, C/L 2, J 3, O 3)

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. (R 4, C/L 4, J 4, O 4)

Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. (R 5, C/L 4, J 5, O 5)

You shall not murder. (R 6, C/L 5, J 6, O 6)

You shall not commit adultery. (R 7, C/L 6, J 7, O 7)

You shall not steal. (R 8, C/L 7, J 8, O 8)

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. (R 9, C/L 8, J 9, O 9)

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; (L 9) you shall not covet your neighbor's wife (C 9), or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's." (R 10, C/L 10, J 10, O 10)

The (Apostles') Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,

FATHER
Creator, Ruler

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,

SON/INCARNATION
Humanity
Purity

suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

GOSPEL

Death
(sheol, hades)
Resurrection
Ascension
Session
Judgment

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

SPIRIT CHURCH

FORGIVENESS
GLORIFICATION
BLESSEDNESS

Amen.

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