

For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

These words, which are not in all translations of The Lord's Prayer, remind us that God is worthy of our praise and worship forever and ever. It is His kingdom, His authority, His power, His greatness, His glory, and His mercy that we acknowledge in this prayer. Everything that exists is His.

When we begin and end prayer, including The Lord's Prayer, with praise and worship of our Heavenly Father, we are affirming our belief in God's majesty. We are agreeing with His word in Romans 14:11 which says "every knee will bow before me; every tongue will acknowledge God."

We shouldn't be using prayer just to get what we want. If we do, we are making God too small and ourselves too grand. He knows our needs and desires even before we speak yet He desires both open honest communication and our adoration.

Put God first. He loves you. His Son Jesus lived a perfect life so He could die as the perfect sacrifice for your wrongdoings. This allows you, an imperfect human being, to have a personal relationship with a holy perfect God. We can love Him now because He loved us first.

You were created to glorify God, to give Him all the adoration, praise, worship, and gratitude that He inspires in you.

Take time to

- Reflect on moments you have experienced the greatness of God—who He is and what He has done—and how you responded
- Examine your thoughts, words, and actions—are you praising and glorifying God in all you do?
- Decide if you are praying out of duty or by rote instead of enjoying God's presence and expressing your gratitude

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 this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we also have forgiven our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen."