

New Life Christian Fellowship

Most of us know it. Familiar words spoken from childhood; but do we know its meaning? The Lord's Prayer.

This is not meant to be just a tradition of words formed by Jesus, it is a way of connecting to the creator of the universe.

Our Father who art in heaven: have we ever *really* understood this? Do you know God as your Father?

If a child has a loving father they trust and look up to them; knowing they are always there, no matter what. Once adopted by God, you will never be abandoned. Perhaps one problem we encounter is our concept of Father.

Who is our "Heavenly Father"? The next part gives us a clue: "Hallowed be your name."

What is God's name? These Biblical names for God reflect God's character. ***El Shaddai***: God Almighty; ***El Elyon***: The Most High God; ***El Olam***: The Everlasting God. ***Yahweh***: to exist, be; ***Yahweh Jireh***: The Lord will provide; ***Yahweh Nissi***: The Lord is my Banner;. ***Yahweh Shalom***: The Lord is Peace; ***Yahweh Sabbaoth***: The Lord of Hosts; ***Yahweh Maccaddeshcem***: The Lord your Sanctifier; ***Yahweh Ro'i***: The Lord my Shepherd; ***Yahweh Tsidkenu***: The Lord our Righteousness; ***Yahweh Shammah***: The Lord is there; ***Yahweh Elohim Israel***: The Lord, the God of Israel. Greek words translated: ***Theos***: "God, unique, Saviour"; ***Kurios***: "Lord". ***Despotes***: "Master". Finally - ***Father***: A distinctive New Testament revelation is that through faith in Christ, God becomes our personal Father.

We need to remember "Our Father in Heaven" is **all** of these things, and more. We are to honour who God is, and beware of misusing God's name, defiling it to a swear word; God's name is sacred.

No matter what our circumstances are – God Is. If we know this, perhaps we will have more confidence, less fear; knowing we have total security with Our Heavenly Father.

When our circumstances do not match up to what we think things are like in heaven, Jesus says to pray "Your Kingdome come, your will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven".

This world is polluted. God is pure. Heaven is a place where there is no sickness, mourning, pain or poverty. When we face these troubles we are advised to pray that God's way (Kingdom) will come into our everyday situations. We can be a part of bringing God's Kingdom to earth, if we think, pray and act differently. This takes faith, dedication and practice.

Reflect on these familiar words, for they can revolutionise our lives.

(Shared by Steve Blunt)

New Life Christian Fellowship meet at Kilgetty Community Centre, 10.45am
Sundays, all welcome. Call 01834 831533 / 07827293781 if you want to talk
or would like us to pray.