

## Father's Day Sermon – 3rd September 2023 (Pastor David Kuss)

### **LORD'S PRAYER (Modern)**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

### **LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional)**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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(Volunteer to say the Lord's Prayer)

Let's stop at the most important word or part?

What would that be?

- Give us today our daily bread?
- Forgive us our sins?
- Lead us not into temptation?
- Deliver us from evil?

Let's go and we'll stop at the most important word (for Father's Day at least.)

Start, Stop. The word is "Our".

When Jesus said that single word "our" he officially changed the world – changed our status with the Father.

In one word everything which belongs to him – becomes ours as well.

Do you remember the days when all that you had was yours?

This is my car, my cup, my dog.

All of a sudden you meet the right person and your car becomes our car. Your language changes: “this is our car, our bed, our dog”.

Then a child is born – he or she becomes our child – he or she belongs. Funny these days, the kids are his, hers and ours, the blended family. The word “Our” is the most important word in our relationship with the Father.

In one word Jesus gives us the right to call his father – “our Father’.  
In one word he gives us the right to call him “brother”.

John records Jesus prayer for us to be one with him and one with the Father:

*“I pray for those who will believe in me through their message,<sup>21</sup> that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us....*

*“Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you love me...*

*“...Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me.<sup>26</sup> I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them.”*

It’s the prayer of our brother to our father for us.

*Father give to them what you have given to me: Eternal life, a place at your right hand, endless love.*

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In a marriage everything becomes ours – and in divorce the process is reversed – isn’t it? All your worldly goods are divided – even access to the kids is divided.

Do you remember the old song “I’ll take the dog”?

*You can keep the curtains and the tables and the chairs  
And all those dirty dishes in the sink  
Well, you can take that golf club and the television set  
And that lawnmower that's always on the blink*

*Now you keep the car, you keep the boat  
And I'll take the dog*

*No, I'll take the dog, oh no, I'm gonna take the dog  
Now hold on, Ray I'm gonna take the dog*

*You ain't gonna take this dog away from me*

*Then you'll just have to stay, I guess that's the only way, okay  
We'll go ridin' in our car and we'll go sailin' in our boat  
And we'll both take the dog, yes, we'll both take the dog*

Jesus prayers is that dog always remains our dog.

Dogs are good for marriage if only we took notice:

Have you noticed:

The later you come home from work, the more excited your dog is to see you.

Dogs don't notice if you call them by another dog's name.

Dogs like it when you leave things on the floor.

A dog's parents never visit you.

A dog doesn't wake you up in the middle of the night to ask, "If I died, would you get another dog?"

If a dog has babies, you can put an ad in the paper and give them away.

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There is a dark side and bright side to our Father's day story.

**That word 'our' cost Jesus his life.**

To make us his brothers and sisters he had to make us right with the father – we were not right – we know this – sin and evil cannot come into the presence of God.

God's purity destroys impurity.

It's not God's nature to destroy – but it just a fact that absolute purity, and holiness, and love consumes sin and evil.

Like paper, scissors, rock – Purity and holiness always outdoes evil.

As it says in Habakkuk:

*My God, my Holy One, ..... Your eyes are too pure to look on evil;  
you cannot tolerate any sin at all" (Hab 1:13)*

Our problem was that absolute purity, and holiness, and love will never allow our sin and evil anywhere near it.

"Moses take off your shoes you are standing on Holy ground"

Get this:

From Paul ([2 Corinthians 5:21](#)) , *"God made Jesus who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Jesus we will become the righteousness of God."*

Jesus took on our sin.

He was hung on a cross to take the consequences of our sin.

He suffered and died.

Just when his suffering was at its worst, he turned to his Father and said:  
"Father why have you abandoned me"

The Father abandoned Jesus in his hour of need – the very father who could save him; the Father who could remove the nails; remove the pain; and remove the shame – left him to die on a cross.

Happy Father's Day! – let me buy you some sox and Jocks.

Most earthly fathers would do anything to save their kids from harm.  
The heavenly Father abandoned his son at his time of need.

You know without our friend the Holy Spirit we would or should walk out of here and want nothing to do with the heavenly Father.

Wouldn't you agree?

But the Holy Spirit is our friend, our counsellor. He says wait!  
He wants us to know that it was Jesus' will to obey the Father even until death – It was just as much Jesus will to be on the cross as it was the Father's will.

Father and Son one will!

Jesus became the sin of the world.

The Father had to abandon him – the father has no choice.

Remember the purity of God cannot come anywhere near the impurity of sin.

Thank God for our friend the Holy Spirit because in this impossible situation we hear a gentle voice from Paul ([2 Corinthians 5:21](#)) , “*God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Jesus we will become the righteousness of God.*”

In what seemed a despicable act of the father we hear it was for us, so that through Jesus we become right with God.

I have heard people say that they will not accept God because of what he allowed to happen to Jesus – it’s just too cruel.

- Let’s know that it was Jesus will to save us.
- Let’s know that it was our sin that made him do it.
- Let’s also know that Jesus now sits at the right hand of the Father – exercising their common will.

This Father’s day was for us – that we might become right with God – through Jesus.

All Fathers want to have everything right with their kids.

Today we buy our earthly fathers sox and jocks – beer and chocolate – because society has created Father’s Day.

What about our heavenly Father – sox and jocks?

Funny enough all he wants is for us to receive - he doesn’t want gifts - he wants us to receive his love – he wants us to know we are his kids, and Jesus is our brother.

He wants us to know his will: (Jeremiah) *I have plans for you, declares the Lord, plans to give you peace, not evil, plans to give you hope and an eternal future.*

What can we do to help each other know Jesus is our brother – that God is our Father?

Right through scripture people of God call each other brother or sister.

Pastor Paul often calls people brother or sister.  
The Longriders all call each other brother or sister.  
It says the truth – that Jesus declared in one word ‘Our” that we are related for ever = that his Father is our Father – that Jesus is our brother.

Say hi to the person next to you – hello brother, sister,

*Father we thank you for your great love. We thank you that you will was one with Jesus to die for us to save us for heaven – for ever. Amen.*