

TUNING OUR LIVES TO GOD

June 2, 2013 Matthew 6:5-13 by Bob Branch
Connecting With God Thru Prayer, Part 8

TUNE YOUR LIFE TO GOD! *(using the Lord's Prayer)*

- ♪ *Our Lives have to be regularly tuned up.*
- ♪ Tune to an objective standard. God!
- ♪ If one theme is out, it needs attention and must be tuned up.
- ♪ If one is above/below the note, it's trouble. Avoid one-note sonatas!
- ♪ You can take one and focus some depth on it for a time, as long as the other strings are also being regularly tuned.

MAIN IDEA: Integrate the Lord's Prayer into daily life for continuous stability and continuous change. Daily tune your life to God! (Matthew 6:5-8)

DETACH

⁵ "And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. **Matthew 6:5**

1. **Pray that has more to do with our MOTIVES and BELIEFS than with the way we do it.**

⁶ But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. **Matthew 6:6**

2. **Cultivate a private prayer life, a SECRET LIFE with God that only he sees.**

3. **The rewards come from the TARGET AUDIENCE: People or God Himself?**

4. **Praying is SOWING SEEDS of the Spirit. *It produces in time.***

A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. **Galatians 6:7-9**

5. **Jesus says we need to ESTABLISH A PLACE where we can silence all the distractions.**

⁷ And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. **Mt. 6:7**

6. **It is the HEART EXPRESSED not the words themselves that matter.**

⁸ Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. **Matthew 6:8**

7. **Praying in this way CONNECTS OUR NEEDS and our faith appropriately to Him.**

RESET

Father... *reset* WHO we are walking with and for.

"I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness." **Jeremiah 31:3**

Name... *reset* our FOCUS, Identity and Witness.

"Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things." **Colossians 3:1-2**

Kingdom-Will... *reset* our MISSION, reset DEATH unto LIFE.

"Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'" **Luke 10:9**

"Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me." **Luke 9:23** (Mt. 16:25)

Bread... *reset* our SECURITY.

"My God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus." **Phil. 4:19** ESV (Gen. 22:14)

Forgiveness... *reset* our CONSCIENCE, cleansing & connections
Matthew 18:24, 27

Deliver... *reset* COOPERATION, discernment and protection.

"we are not unaware of his schemes." **2 Corinthians 2:11**