

Episode 7: Reckoning

In this episode everyone is preparing for the big sermon Jesus will be sharing soon. He gives everyone a job to help, but it is interrupted by Roman soldiers sent to take Jesus to Quintus. Let's dive into the episode to learn more.

Jesus tells the disciples that he is preparing for a very important, big sermon. He says that it will define his whole ministry and he will write it so it connects with people on a personal level. He needs help from everyone, so he divides up jobs and they start to prepare. It's so interesting to think about the preparation that Jesus and the disciples put into the Sermon on the Mount. When you read scripture and think of Jesus as God, it's just assumed he knew what he was going to write and just gave one of the best speeches in history with little preparation. But that probably wasn't the case. He, like us, must prepare and the disciples helped him with that process. (More to come on this in the next episode.) How does it make you feel that Jesus has to prepare for things as well? When you are in the middle of preparing for a presentation or big event, know Jesus experienced this life very similarly to you. Reflect below:

Meanwhile Simon and Andrew are fishing as everyone is very hungry, that is until they see the Roman guards approaching the camp looking for Jesus. Jesus is taken by Gaius and Atticus to Quintus. Quintus wanted to question Jesus and see if he is a threat to Rome. He ruled that he was not a threat and asked Jesus to not attract crowds, uprising or take any more of his talent. We all know Jesus can't and didn't agree to this, the Sermon on the Mount is coming up! Note that this interaction is not in scripture. Quintus is also not a biblical character so none of this part of the show was based on the bible.

Two people from season 1 make an appearance in this episode. Tamar and the paralytic man who was healed after his friends sent him down through the roof to Jesus are seen by Philip and Andrew in the streets telling crowds about the miracles they have seen. Shmuel has been looking for them and wanted to see if Jesus healed the leper and the paralytic man on the Sabbath to help his case against Jesus. Luckily, Andrew finds them before Shmuel and Tamar leaves with Andrew to go back to the camp.

Once Jesus gets back to the camp, the disciples tell him how worried they were! Jesus lets them know, they shouldn't worry. They ask for a prayer that they can pray in times of distress. Jesus reminds them that prayer is the first step in getting their mind and heart right. So, Jesus gives them the Lord's prayer to start praying.

- **Matthew 6:9-13 (ESV)** – ⁹ Pray then like this: “Our father in heaven, hallowed be your name, ¹⁰ your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. ¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread. ¹² And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. ¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.”

Let's give the prayer a try as we break it up below:

- **“Our father in heaven, hallowed be your name”** – God is great, use the space below to express to God how truly great he is.

- **“Your kingdom come, your will be done”** - This can be the hardest part of the prayer to pray. It doesn't say, MY will be done, but YOUR will be done. Do you feel you truly pray this way?
 - Jesus prayed this way when he was in the garden of Gethsemane (Mark 14:36). He prayed for God to give him another way besides going to the cross and all the suffering and humiliation he was about to endure. But Jesus prayed, “Your will be done.” He was ready to endure all of that because he wanted God's will. Have you been praying for God's will to be done or your will to be done? Are you open to what God's will is? Write a prayer below asking for God's will to be done.

- **“On earth as it is in heaven”** – Heaven is going to be a wonderful place where we get to be with God with no more pain and suffering. Praying for God to be with us and for earth to be like heaven is a wonderful prayer. What aspect of heaven do you most look forward to, and wish was here on earth and why?

- **“Give us this day our daily bread”** – Many of us in America do not have to worry about our daily bread. We have plenty of food in our pantries and are provided for. We are so blessed. But there is more to this part of the prayer than actual food. Jesus says that he is the bread of life (John 6:35). We need our daily dose of him every day to sustain us. So, thank God for the actual food that you have, but also the bread that he gave us through Jesus. Are you seeking Jesus daily? What can you do to seek your daily bread every day?

- **“Forgive us our debts”** – Confess your sins to God. The best way to be forgiven by God is to recognize your sin and ask for forgiveness of the sin that you commit. Ask God for forgiveness in where you have sinned, fallen short or given into temptation.

- **“As we also have forgiven our debtors”** – If we are asking God for forgiveness, it makes sense that we would forgive those who have hurt us as well. Is there anyone that you need to forgive? It’s important not to hold that bitterness and resentment in your heart. It only separates you from Jesus. Use the space below to reflect and truly seek to forgive.

- **“Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.”** – Resisting temptation is hard and we can’t do it on our own. We need God’s help to deliver us from temptation and the ways the devil tries to lure us away from Jesus. Know that you can’t do it alone, but God can help! We just have to ask him and follow his ways, his commandments and guidance. Use the space below to ask God for help with what tempts you.

As we have seen through going through the Lord’s Prayer, prayer is really important. It is our communication with God. We have the power to ask God for help. We can pray for others, for ourselves, our families and God will hear us. To close, use the rest of the space below to pray for the people in your life and don’t forget yourself.