Lynn H. Wood

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON QUARTERLY

Fourth Quarter, 1932

The Lord's Prayer

The Prayer of Surrender; Intercessory Prayer

Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, December 31, 1932
Mission Work of the Northern European Division

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"WHY PRAY?"

By LYNN H. WOOD, President, Emmanuel Missionary College

A BOOK of fourteen chapters of illustration and thought-provoking meditations that will make the Sabbath school lessons for this quarter stand out in personal appeal for a closer walk with our Lord and Master. ¶ The teacher, as an ambassador of God, will need the thoughts for himself and his class. After reading this book, the student will want to come into that sacred relationship with God that will make him the kind of intercessor that is needed in the world to-day. After you have read it, you will want to pass it on for others to enjoy.

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Sabbath	Weekly S. S. Offering Planned For	Actually Given	Total to Date	Balance Unpaid
1st				
2d				
3d				
4th				
5th				
6th				
7th				
8th				
9th				
10th				
11th				
12th				
13th				
14th Sabbath				
Totals				

..... Name.

"OUR FATHER which 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen."

Lesson 1—October 1, 1932

DAILY LESSON STUDY: For your record, place a check mark in the proper space.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SABBATH

"Our Father Which Art in Heaven"

A Father and His Child

LESSON TEXT: Matthew 6:9.

MEMORY VERSE: "As many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name." John 1:12.

LESSON HELP: "Mount of Blessing," pp. 151-156.

INTRODUCTORY THOUGHT

God delights to acknowledge us as His children. Gal. 4:4-7.

"If you call God your Father, you acknowledge yourselves His children, to be guided by His wisdom, and to be obedient in all things, knowing that His love is changeless. You will accept His plan for your life. As children of God, you will hold His honor, His character, His family, His work, as the objects of your highest interest. It will be your joy to recognize and honor your relation to your Father, and to every member of His family. You will rejoice to do any act, however humble, that will tend to His glory, or to the well-being of your kindred."—*"Mount of Blessing,"* p. 156.

THE LESSON

PRIVILEGES OF SONSHIP

1. What high privilege was given to Paul as a son of God? Acts 9:15.

NOTE.—One of the first things a child receives is a name. It should be a privilege to bear that name before the world. He should honor it and seek to hold it above reproach. But the highest privilege accorded to us is to bear the name of our heavenly Father. Do we prize it as we should?

2. What does God promise in this life to those who accept Him? Mark 10:29, 30.

NOTE.—"In the secret place of prayer, where no eye but God's can see, no ear but His can hear, we may pour out our most hidden desires and longings to the Father of infinite pity; and in the hush and silence of the soul, that voice which never fails to answer the cry of human need, will speak to our hearts."—*"Mount of Blessing,"* p. 126.

3. What does He promise for the hereafter? John 14:1-3.

4. What example of parental love has God given us? John 3:16.

NOTE.—"Day by day God labors for man's sanctification, and man is to cooperate with Him, putting forth persevering efforts in the cultivation of right habits. He is to add grace to grace; and as he thus works on the plan of addition, God works for him on the plan of multiplication. Our Saviour is always ready to hear and answer the prayer of the contrite heart, and grace and peace are multiplied to His faithful ones. Gladly He grants them the blessings they need in their struggle against the evils that beset them."—*"The Acts of the Apostles,"* p. 532.

5. What protection do we enjoy as a result of this unfathomable love? Ps. 91:1, 4.

NOTE.—Our loving Father would sooner send every angel of heaven to his rescue than to see one of His children lost. Let us meditate on this love, and surrender to its watchcare and protection.

6. What interest does our heavenly Father have in providing for the spiritual needs of His children? 2 Cor. 9:8.

7. How does the Saviour illustrate the Father's care for the temporal wants of His children? Matt. 6:25-33.

8. What guidance does our Father promise to us? John 16:13; Ps. 32:8.

9. What inheritance is promised to the children of God? Rom. 8:17.

10. What instruction in the way of life is provided? Prov. 6:23.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF SONSHIP

11. What is our responsibility if we accept the name of Christ? 2 Tim. 2:19, last part.

NOTE.—"Ever remember that the moral nature needs to be braced with constant watchfulness and prayer."—*"Testimonies,"* vol. 4, p. 522.

12. To what life of purity are the sons and daughters of God called? 1 Peter 1:13-16.

NOTE.—"This Saviour, who prayed for those that felt no need of prayer, and wept for those that felt no need of tears, is now before the throne, to receive and present to His Father the petitions of those for whom He prayed on earth. The example of Christ is for us to follow."—*Id.*, p. 528.

13. When we cannot understand our Father's dealings, what are we admonished to do? Isa. 26:4.

NOTE.—"The prayer of the humble suppliant He [Christ] presents as His own desire in that soul's behalf. Every sincere prayer is heard in heaven. It may not be fluently expressed; but if the heart is in it, it will ascend to the sanctuary where Jesus ministers, and He will present it to the Father without one awkward, stammering word, beautiful and fragrant with the incense of His own perfection."—*"The Desire of Ages,"* p. 667.

14. If we maintain our confidence in God's leading unto the end, what is our reward? Heb. 3:14.

NOTE.—"The assurance is broad and unlimited, and He is faithful who has promised. When we do not receive the very things we ask for, at the time we

ask, we are still to believe that the Lord hears, and that He will answer our prayers. We are so erring and shortsighted that we sometimes ask for things that would not be a blessing to us, and our heavenly Father in love answers our prayers by giving us that which will be for our highest good,—that which we ourselves would desire if with vision divinely enlightened we could see all things as they really are. When our prayers seem not be answered, we are to cling to the promise; for the time of answering will surely come, and we shall receive the blessing we need most. But to claim that prayer will always be answered in the very way and for the particular thing that we desire, is presumption. God is too wise to err, and too good to withhold any good thing from them that walk uprightly. Then do not fear to trust Him, even though you do not see the immediate answer to your prayers. Rely upon His sure promise, 'Ask, and it shall be given you.' "—*"Steps to Christ,"* pp. 100, 101.

15. In view of all that God has done for us, what should be our response to Him? Luke 10:27.

16. What does our heavenly Father have a right to expect of us of whom He says, "Your labor is not in vain"? 1 Cor. 15:58.

17. What will our desire to obey our Father lead us to do for our neighbor? James 2:8.

ADDITIONAL TEXTS FOR STUDY

The following texts bearing upon the relationship of the Father and His children will bear prayerful study in connection with this lesson:

A separate family. 2 Cor. 6:16-18.
Of one Spirit. Rom. 8:14, 15.
Sons without rebuke. Phil. 2:14, 15.
A perfect Elder Brother. Heb. 2:10.
Discipline necessary. Heb. 12:7.
Adoption from without. Hosea 1:10.

Lesson 2—October 8, 1932

DAILY LESSON STUDY: For your record, place a check mark in the proper space.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SABBATH

"Hallowed Be Thy Name"

A Worshiper and His God

LESSON TEXT: Matthew 6:9.

MEMORY VERSE: "I have declared unto them Thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith Thou hast loved Me may be in them, and I in them." John 17:26.

LESSON HELP: "Mount of Blessing," pp. 157, 158.

INTRODUCTORY THOUGHT

Christ hallowed His Father's name when here on earth. John 17:6, 26.

"You cannot hallow His name, you cannot represent Him to the world, unless in life and character you represent the very life and character of God. This you can do only through the acceptance of the grace and righteousness of Christ."—*"Mount of Blessing,"* p. 158.

THE LESSON

THE HERITAGE OF THE WORSHIPER

1. Whose workmanship are we? Eph. 2:10.

2. By what name are God's children called? Eph. 3:14, 15; Isa. 43:6, 7.

NOTE.—It is God's desire that we cherish this highest of all privileges—adoption into His family and the bearing of His name. Let us remember this as we pray. "Jesus said, 'Ye shall ask in My name: and I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you: for the Father Himself loveth you.' 'I have chosen you . . . that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in My name, He may give it you.' But to pray in the name of Jesus is something more than a mere mention of that name at the beginning and the ending of a prayer. It is to pray in the mind and spirit of Jesus, while we believe His promises, rely upon His grace, and work His works."—*"Steps to Christ,"* p. 105.

3. Having created us, what constant, sustaining watchcare does He manifest? Psalm 23.

NOTE.—"Oh, how evident that there is no real strength but that which God imparts to those who trust in Him! One petition offered up to God in faith has more power than a wealth of human intellect."—*"Testimonies,"* vol. 2, p. 279.

4. What provision has God made for the wise guidance of His creatures? Ex. 20:3-17.

NOTE.—This law will be written in the hearts of His saints. Jer. 31:33.

5. How are we provided with the power to keep the law of God? Gal. 2:20; Phil. 4:13.

6. What protection does the Creator extend to His redeemed creatures? Isa. 43:1, 2.

NOTE.—"Prayer moves the arm of Omnipotence. He who marshals the stars in order in the heavens, whose word controls the waves of the great deep, —the same infinite Creator will work in behalf of His people if they call upon Him in faith."—*Id.*, vol. 5, p. 453.

7. What means of instruction does God use? Deut. 4:36; John 14:26.

NOTE.—"The Lord specifies no conditions except that you hunger for His mercy, desire His counsel, and long for His love. 'Ask.' The asking makes it manifest that you realize your necessity; and if you ask in faith, you will receive. The Lord has pledged His word, and it cannot fail. If you come with true contrition, you need not feel that you are presumptuous in asking for what the Lord has promised."—*"Mount of Blessing,"* p. 187.

8. How are Christ's followers regarded by Him? John 15:15.

NOTE.—"Pray much; for prayer is one of the most essential duties. Without it you cannot maintain a Christian walk. It elevates, strengthens, and ennobles; it is the soul talking with God."—*"Testimonies,"* vol. 2, p. 313.

9. How does the Lord manifest His interest in those who bear His name? 2 Chron. 16:9, first part.

NOTE.—What a delightful picture! He creates us and gives us His name! He sustains, instructs, and protects His creation! He formulates the wisest of laws and gives power in His name to keep those laws. He delights to associate with His people and is all the time thinking of, planning for, and opening up

ways of growth for His loved ones. Who would not accept this privilege? But wait! That is but one side of the picture. What are we to do?

"The prayer of faith is the great strength of the Christian, and will assuredly prevail against Satan. This is why he insinuates that we have no need of prayer. The name of Jesus, our Advocate, he detests; and when we earnestly come to Him for help, Satan's host is alarmed. It serves his purpose well if we neglect the exercise of prayer, for then his lying wonders are more readily received."—*Id.*, vol. 1, p. 296.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE WORKER

10. What is our first responsibility to our Creator? Jer. 18:5, 6.

Answer.—To submit to His molding.

11. In what honor should we hold the name of Christ? Ps. 99:3; John 5:22, 23.

12. Of what else is the Creator worthy? Ps. 96:8, 9.

13. What is promised to the obedient? Isa. 1:19.

NOTE.—"Not one sincere prayer is lost. Amid the anthems of the celestial choir, God hears the cries of the weakest human being. We pour out our heart's desire in our closets, we breathe a prayer as we walk by the way, and our words reach the throne of the Monarch of the universe. They may be inaudible to any human ear, but they cannot die away into silence, nor can they be lost through the activities of business that are going on. Nothing can drown the soul's desire. It rises above the din of the street, above the confusion of the multitude, to the heavenly courts. It is God to whom we are speaking, and our prayer is heard."—"*Christ's Object Lessons*," p. 174.

14. Whose name are we to carry to the world? Matt. 28:19.

15. What responsibility rests upon those who bear this name? 2 Thess. 1:11, 12.

"The dear Lord's best interpreters
  Are humble human souls;
The gospel of a life like His
  Is more than books or scrolls.

"From scheme and creed the light goes out;
  The saintly fact survives;
The blessed Master none can doubt
  Revealed in holy lives."

16. What counsel is given to the young? Eccl. 12:1.

17. What exhortation is given to those who have fallen into sin? Isa. 1:16-18.

18. By what do we have access to the grace of God? In what should we then rejoice? Rom. 5:1, 2.

19. What is God's plan for those who love His name? Ps. 69:35, 36.

The average gifts to missions each Sabbath during a recent quarter were $33,707.28.

DAILY LESSON STUDY: For your record, place a check mark in the proper space.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SABBATH

"Thy Kingdom Come"

A Subject and His King

LESSON TEXT: Matthew 6:10.

MEMORY VERSE: "Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." Isa. 9:6.

INTRODUCTORY THOUGHT

Christ manifested the characteristics of a loyal subject, and because of this God has exalted Him above every name. Phil. 2:5-10. The same experience is open to the remnant church. Rev. 3:21. Christ is the perfect subject and because of His training as a subject, He is eligible as a perfect King. Heb. 2:10.

A subject enjoys certain definite privileges given him by his king, but just as definitely he assumes certain responsibilities. More and more as these lessons are studied, the conviction will deepen that the Lord's Prayer is one of complete surrender.

" 'Whereunto shall we liken the kingdom of God? or with what comparison shall we compare it?' In earthly governments there was nothing that could serve for a similitude. No civil society could afford Him a symbol. 'It is like a grain of mustard seed,' He said, 'which, when it is sown upon the earth, though it be less than all the seeds that are upon the earth, yet when it is sown, groweth up, and becometh greater than all the herbs, and putteth out great branches; so that the birds of the heaven can lodge under the shadow thereof.' " —*"Christ's Object Lessons,"* p. 76.

THE LESSON

GOD'S RESPONSIBILITIES—OUR PRIVILEGES

1. **How extensive is the rulership of God?** Ps. 103:19; Isa. 33:22.

NOTE.—"Not by the decisions of courts or councils or legislative assemblies, not by the patronage of worldly great men, is the kingdom of Christ established, but by the implanting of Christ's nature in humanity through the work of the Holy Spirit. [John 1:12, 13.] Here is the only power than can work the uplifting of mankind. And the human agency for the accomplishment of this work is the teaching and practicing of the word of God."—*"The Desire of Ages,"* p. 509.

"Christ sought to teach the disciples the truth that in God's kingdom there are no territorial lines, no caste, no aristocracy; that they must go to all nations, bearing to them the message of a Saviour's love. But not until later did they realize in all its fullness that God 'hath made of one blood all nations of men.' [Acts 17:26, 27.]"—*"Acts of the Apostles,"* p. 20.

2. **What protection does our King offer His subjects?** Isa. 41:10.

3. **When is the kingdom of glory set up?** Matt. 25:31, 32.

NOTE.—"His kingdom will not come until the good tidings of His grace have been carried to all the earth. Hence, as we give ourselves to God, and win other souls to Him, we hasten the coming of His kingdom. Only those who devote themselves to His service, saying, 'Here am I; send me,' to open blind eyes, to turn men 'from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified,'—they alone pray in sincerity, 'Thy kingdom come.' "—*"Mount of Blessing,"* p. 160.

4. What is promised to the subjects of this kingdom? Heb. 8:10.

5. To what end is the kingdom of God directed? Isa. 26:3, 4; John 14:27.

NOTE.—"For all who are disheartened there is but one remedy,—faith, prayer, and work."—*"Testimonies,"* vol. 6, p. 438.

6. What means of support has this great spiritual kingdom? Lev. 27: 30-33; Ezek. 20:40; Ex. 34:26.

NOTE.—No man can consistently pray "Thy kingdom come" who is at any time complaining because of the calls for money with which to further the kingdom. It took from one fourth to one third of the income of the people of God anciently to support the temple and its services. (See "Testimonies," vol. 4, p. 467; "Patriarchs and Prophets," p. 527.) Should our proportion in tithes and offerings be less as an average and we still feel clear of conscience in praying, "Thy kingdom come"?

Christ wishes to train us to sit with Him on His throne as joint heirs and rulers. Are we seeking to receive all the privileges of the kingdom without assuming our share of the responsibilities?

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SUBJECT

7. What example of loyalty did Christ set for us? Luke 4:7, 8; John 17:6-8.

8. As King, what does God have a right to expect of His subjects? What does He promise to those who are obedient? 1 Samuel 15:22; Isa. 1:19, 20.

NOTE.—"The strength acquired in prayer to God, united with individual effort in training the mind to thoughtfulness and care taking, prepares the person for daily duties and keeps the spirit in peace under all circumstances, however trying. The temptations to which we are daily exposed make prayer a necessity. In order that we may be kept by the power of God through faith, the desires of the mind should be continually ascending in silent prayer for help, for light, for strength, for knowledge. But thought and prayer cannot take the place of earnest, faithful improvement of the time. Work and prayer are both required in perfecting Christian character."—*"Testimonies,"* vol. 4, p. 459.

9. What is promised to those who endure tribulation? Rev. 2:10.

10. What service does God expect of His servants? Rom. 12:1, 2.

NOTE.—"Unless we exert to the utmost the powers which He has given us, we shall ever remain weak and inefficient. Much prayer, and the most vigorous exercise of the mind, are necessary if we would be prepared to do the work which God would intrust to us."—*Id.*, vol. 4, p. 611.

"The upbuilding of the kingdom of God is retarded or urged forward according to the unfaithfulness or fidelity of human agencies. The work is hindered by the failure of the human to coöperate with the divine. Men may pray, 'Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done in earth as it is done in heaven;' but

if they fail of acting out this prayer in their lives, their petitions will be fruitless."—*Id.*, vol. 6, pp. 437, 438.

11. What does God expect us to become in His service? 2 Cor. 5:18-20.

NOTE.—"As believers in Christ we need greater faith. We need to be more fervent in prayer. Many wonder why their prayers are so lifeless, their faith so feeble and wavering, their Christian experience so dark and uncertain. 'Have we not fasted,' they say, 'and walked mournfully before the Lord of hosts?' In the fifty-eighth chapter of Isaiah Christ has shown how this condition of things may be changed. [Read verses 6, 7,] . . . This is the recipe that Christ has prescribed for the faint-hearted, doubting, trembling soul. Let the sorrowful ones, who walk mournfully before the Lord, arise and help some one who needs help."—*Id.*, vol. 6, p. 266.

12. What responsibility do we have in supporting the kingdom of God? Mal. 3:8, 9; Prov. 3:9, 10.

NOTE.—"Many poor men who are now content to do nothing for the good of their fellow men, and for the advancement of the cause of God, might do much if they would. They are as accountable to God for their capital of physical strength as is the rich man for his capital of money."—*Id.*, vol. 3, p. 400.

"Constant, self-denying benevolence is God's remedy for the cankering sins of selfishness and covetousness. God has arranged systematic benevolence to sustain His cause and relieve the necessities of the suffering and needy. He has ordained that giving should become a habit, that it may counteract the dangerous and deceitful sin of covetousness. Continual giving starves covetousness to death. Systematic benevolence is designed in the order of God to tear away treasures from the covetous as fast as they are gained, and to consecrate them to the Lord, to whom they belong. This system is so arranged that men may give something from their wages every day, and lay by for their Lord a portion of the profits of every investment. . . . God knows our danger, and has hedged us about with means to prevent our own ruin."—*Id.*, vol. 3, p. 548.

13. What admonition concerning mutual burden bearing does Paul give the subjects of the kingdom? Gal. 6:1, 2.

NOTE.—"Let none who have pledged themselves by baptism to live for the service and glory of God, take back their pledge. There is a world to be saved: let this thought urge us on to greater sacrifices and more earnest labor for those who are out of the way."—*Id.*, vol. 9, p. 133.

14. In what freedom are the subjects of God's kingdom to stand fast? Gal. 5:1.

ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS

Are you willing to enlist as a soldier of the cross, not for a position, but for love of King and kingdom? Are you willing to go out as His ambassador? Do you never, even in your heart, question the continued calls for means that the "place of His habitation" may be enlarged? If so, then you can pray in all sincerity, "Thy kingdom come."

In our 10,512 Sabbath schools the world over, there are 409,516 members. Of these, during one quarter, 42,618 had a perfect record in daily study of the lesson and attendance at Sabbath school, while 6,685 received bookmarks for a perfect yearly record.

DAILY LESSON STUDY: For your record, place a check mark in the proper space.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SABBATH

"Thy Will Be Done in Earth, as It Is in Heaven"

A Servant and His Master

LESSON TEXT: Matthew 6:10.

MEMORY VERSE: "Whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all." Mark 10:44.

INTRODUCTORY THOUGHT

Christ took upon Himself the form of a servant and was the best servant this world has ever seen. His Father loved Him, yet it pleased God to bruise Him that He might bring redemption to us. This was entirely voluntary on the part of Christ, and because of this God has highly exalted Him. Phil. 2:7-9. During His last meeting with His disciples before the crucifixion, He invited them to participate in the same complete surrender that they might know the joys of real service. Study carefully the complete abandonment of self and full surrender to another power. Consider well both the privileges that the servant enjoys and his responsibilities to his Master.

THE LESSON

RELATION OF THE MASTER TO THE SERVANT

1. To what has God likened His kingdom? Matt. 25:14, 15.

NOTE.—The Scriptures are specific in stating the fact that God recognizes the ability of each one. God demands the training of our mental faculties and the putting to a stretch of all our capabilities in His service.

2. Who takes the responsibility for the proper execution of the work of the kingdom? Rom. 9:28.

NOTE.—"Work in faith, and leave results with God. Pray in faith, and the mystery of His providence will bring its answer. At times it may seem that you cannot succeed. But work and believe, putting into your efforts faith, hope, and courage. After doing what you can, wait for the Lord, declaring His faithfulness, and He will bring His word to pass. Wait, not in fretful anxiety, but in undaunted faith and unshaken trust."—*"Testimonies,"* vol. 7, p. 245.

The Lord is the master mind behind all. He may use us or lay us aside at His pleasure. Let us surrender to His marvelous plan, and we will one day rejoice with Him when we behold the intricate design the Spirit has wrought in each of our lives.

3. Of what is the servant worthy? 1 Cor. 9:14; Matt. 20:4.

4. What did Christ consider the greatest reward to the seventy as they returned? Luke 10:17-20.

5. What does God, as master, supply to His servants? Phil. 4:19.

NOTE.—"Why should the sons and daughters of God be reluctant to pray, when prayer is the key in the hand of faith to unlock heaven's storehouse,

where are treasured the boundless resources of Omnipotence? Without unceasing prayer and diligent watching, we are in danger of growing careless and of deviating from the right path. The adversary seeks continually to obstruct the way to the mercy seat, that we may not by earnest supplication and faith obtain grace and power to resist temptation."—*"Steps to Christ,"* p. 99.

6. What is the Master's relation toward His servants? Ps. 107:8.

7. How strongly does God assure us of His care for our needs? Isa. 49:15.

8. What discipline and training are necessary in order to become an efficient servant? 1 Peter 1:7; Isa. 48:10.

9. Though trial is necessary, what provision does the Master make for the protection of His servants? 1 Cor. 10:13.

NOTE.—Even in the valley of shadow we can count on the sustaining hand of God. Ps. 23:4. Men may threaten and persecute, but still the sustaining grace of the Father is His gift to His children. Heb. 13:6. No matter what may be our portion in life, we can say with the apostle, "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day." 2 Tim. 1:12.

RELATION OF THE SERVANT TO THE MASTER

10. Since God is our Master, what relationship should we gladly sustain to Him? Acts 20:19.

NOTE.—"God's messengers must tarry long with Him, if they would have success in their work."—*"Gospel Workers,"* p. 255.

11. What study should the servant give to his task that he may be efficient? 2 Tim. 2:15.

12. What illustration does Christ use to show that God expects His servants to be profitable to the kingdom? Matt. 25:19-23.

13. What admonition does Paul give to servants concerning obedience? Eph. 6:5-8.

14. What is required of servants? 1 Cor. 4:1, 2.

15. What is another essential qualification of servants? Phil. 4:11; Heb. 13:5.

NOTE.—"There are many who are not satisfied to serve God cheerfully in the place that He has marked out for them, or to do uncomplainingly the work that He has placed in their hands. It is right to be dissatisfied with the way in which we perform duty, but we are not to be dissatisfied with the duty itself because we would rather do something else. In His providence God places before human beings service that will be as medicine to their diseased minds. Thus He seeks to lead them to put aside the selfish preference, which, if gratified, would disqualify them for the work He has for them. If they accept and perform this service, their minds will be cured. If they refuse it, they will be left at strife with themselves and others."—*Id.*, p. 270.

16. What kind of service does the Lord desire of His servants? Isa. 6:8; Col. 3:23.

17. For what does God hold His servants responsible? Matt. 25:24-30.

NOTE.—"It is not the length of time we labor, but our willingness and fidelity in the work, that makes it acceptable to God. In all our service a full surrender of self is demanded. The smallest duty done in sincerity and self-forgetfulness, is more pleasing to God than the greatest work when marred with self-seeking."—*"Christ's Object Lessons,"* p. 402.

18. While many times the servant is obliged to walk in darkness, what is the Master's counsel? Isa. 50:10.

NOTE.—"From what dangers, seen and unseen, we have been preserved through the interposition of the angels, we shall never know, until in the light of eternity we see the providences of God."—*"The Desire of Ages,"* p. 240.

"Build a little fence of trust
  Around to-day;
Fill the space with loving work
  And therein stay;
Look not through the sheltering bars
  Upon to-morrow;
God will help thee bear what comes
  Of joy and sorrow."

19. What must a true servant never attempt? Matt. 6:24.

NOTE.—"We cannot serve God with a divided heart. Bible religion is not one influence among many others; its influence is to be supreme, pervading and controlling every other. It is not to be like a dash of color brushed here and there upon the canvas, but it is to pervade the whole life, as if the canvas were dipped into the color, until every thread of the fabric were dyed a deep, unfading hue."—*"The Desire of Ages,"* p. 312.

ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS

We all dislike a servant who tries to do the directing—feels the task assigned to him rightly belongs to another; who shirks and pleads for another to do what he has been asked to do. We admire the servant who places his shoulder to the wheel and pushes steadily ahead, knowing the Master will not suffer him to sustain loss. Such a servant was Christ!

Are you a profitable worker for the Lord? Have the talents He has loaned you—time, health, mental faculties, strength, influence—brought in other talents? Are you watching your Master's interests efficiently? Or would you like to receive the remuneration of a servant and have the Master supply your needs in the way of houses, food, clothing, and material with which to do your own will?

"Just to ask Him what to do,
  All the day.
And to make you quick and true
  To obey."

Millions are begging for the bread of life in the truths of the message. Will you help send it to them in the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering? Help liberally in the mission work of the Northern European Division. It means souls saved in the kingdom of God.

DAILY LESSON STUDY: For your record, place a check mark in the proper space.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SABBATH

"Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread"

A Suppliant and His Benefactor

LESSON TEXT: Matthew 6:11.

MEMORY VERSE: "Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price." Isa. 55:1.

INTRODUCTORY THOUGHT

A suppliant is entirely dependent on some power outside of himself. So Christ was dependent on His Father's watchcare and provident love. Not alone did He receive material sustenance but spiritual nourishment as well.

"Men are called upon to coöperate with God in the care of the grain and the preparation of the loaf, and because of this they lose sight of the divine agency. They do not give God the glory due unto His holy name. The working of His power is ascribed to natural causes or to human instrumentality. Man is glorified in place of God, and His gracious gifts are perverted to selfish uses, and made a curse instead of a blessing. God is seeking to change all this. He desires that our dull senses shall be quickened to discern His merciful kindness and to glorify Him for the working of His power."—*"The Desire of Ages,"* p. 367.

THE LESSON

RELATIONSHIP OF THE BENEFACTOR TO THE SUPPLIANT

1. How is God's sympathy and interest in His children expressed? Ps. 103:13, 14.

NOTE.—"All that man has, God has given him, and he who improves his abilities to God's glory, will be an instrument to do good; but we can no more live a religious life without constant prayer and the performance of religious duties, than we can have physical strength without partaking of temporal food. We must daily sit down at God's table. We must receive strength from the Living Vine, if we are nourished."—*"Testimonies,"* vol. 4, p. 560.

2. What is the cost to the suppliant of all God's benefits? Isa. 55:1.

NOTE.—"Satan leads many to believe that prayer to God is useless, and but a form. He well knows how needful are meditation and prayer, to keep Christ's followers aroused to resist his cunning and deception."—*Id.*, vol. 1, p. 295.

3. How willing is God to give us all these benefits? Luke 11:13.

NOTE.—"Brethren, I entreat you to move with an eye single to the glory of God. Let His power be your dependence, His grace your strength. . . . God is willing to do much for you, if you will only feel your need of Him. Jesus loves you. Ever seek to walk in the light of God's wisdom; and through all the changing scenes of life, do not rest unless you know that your will is in harmony with the will of your Creator."—*Id.*, vol. 4, p. 561.

4. What evidence have we that all these benefits were given to us voluntarily on God's part? Rom. 5:6, 8.

5. How do we know that God has the ability to grant all our needs? Ps. 24:1; Eph. 3:20.

6. How abundantly are these benefits bestowed? Phil. 4:19.

NOTE.—"If you have renounced self, and given yourself to Christ, you are a member of the family of God, and everything in the Father's house is for you. All the treasures of God are opened to you, both the world that now is, and that which is to come. The ministry of angels, the gift of His Spirit, the labors of His servants,—all are for you. The world, with everything in it, is yours so far as it can do you good. . . . But you are as a child who is not yet placed in control of his inheritance. . . . Christ holds it for you, safe beyond the spoiler's reach. Like the child, you shall receive day by day what is required for the day's need."—*"Mount of Blessing,"* p. 162.

RELATION OF SUPPLIANT TO BENEFACTOR

7. How dependent are we upon God's mercies? 1 Tim. 6:7; Job 1:21.

NOTE.—"In teaching us to ask every day for what we need,—both temporal and spiritual blessings,—God has a purpose to accomplish for our good. He would have us realize our dependence upon His constant care; for He is seeking to draw us into communion with Himself."—*Id.*, p. 165.

8. How only does man truly live? Luke 4:4.

9. What should be our attitude toward our Benefactor? 1 Thess. 5:18.

NOTE.—That God expects this appreciation of all His gifts is well illustrated by Christ's account of the ten lepers who were cleansed. Luke 17:15-18.

10. In what spirit should our supplication be made? Gen. 32:10.

NOTE.—The same thought is expressed by Ruth in speaking to Boaz who is a type of Christ. When he manifested interest in her, she exclaimed, "Why have I found grace in thine eyes, that thou shouldest take knowledge of me, seeing I am a stranger?" Ruth 2:10. Nothing was said of the hard times she had passed through or the sacrifice she had made in leaving her country and kinspeople to come among a strange people. Let us think more of the grace of Christ, and far less of the past, for with us as with Ruth, the future will reveal that we have made no sacrifice at all.

11. Because of the great benefits extended to us in the sacrifice of Christ, what are we urged to do? Rom. 6:13; 1 Peter 5:5, 6.

NOTE.—"Jesus, while He dwelt on earth, dignified life in all its details by keeping before men the glory of God, and by subordinating everything to the will of His Father. . . . God's everlasting arm encircles the soul that turns to Him for aid, however feeble that soul may be. . . . The city of God will open its golden gates to receive him who learned while on earth to lean on God for guidance and wisdom, for comfort and hope, amid loss and affliction."—*"Mount of Blessing,"* p. 148.

12. How persistent should the suppliant be in his endeavor to attain complete submission to the will of God? Isa. 55:6; Luke 11:8-10.

NOTE.—Notice Elijah's persistence in praying for rain after the test on Mount Carmel. "The servant watched while Elijah prayed. Six times he returned from the watch saying, 'There is nothing, no cloud, no sign of rain.'

But the prophet did not give up in discouragement. He kept reviewing his life, to see where he had failed to honor God, he confessed his sins, and thus continued to afflict his soul before God, while watching for a token that his prayer was answered. As he searched his heart, he seemed to be less and less, both in his own estimation and in the sight of God. . . . While he clung to the Saviour as his only strength and righteousness, the answer came."—*Mrs. E. G. White, in Review and Herald,* May 26, 1891. "Had he given up in discouragement, his prayer would not have been answered, but he persevered till the answer came."—*Id.*, June 9, 1891.

13. How must the suppliant come to God? Heb. 11:6.

NOTE.—"In the parable [Luke 11:5-8] the petitioner was again and again repulsed, but he did not relinquish his purpose. So our prayers do not always seem to receive an immediate answer; but Christ teaches that we should not cease to pray. Prayer is not to work any change in God; it is to bring us into harmony with God. When we make request of Him, He may see that it is necessary for us to search our hearts and repent of sin. Therefore He takes us through test and trial, He brings us through humiliation, that we may see what hinders the working of His Holy Spirit through us."—*"Christ's Object Lessons,"* p. 143.

14. Even as Christ supplicated the throne of grace that through Him others might be blessed, whom should we include in our prayer, "Give us this day our daily bread"? Prov. 19:17.

NOTE.—The parable of the unjust steward (Luke 16:1-8) should be read in this connection. There must be no selfishness in our asking.

"When we pray, 'Give us this day our daily bread,' we ask for others as well as ourselves. And we acknowledge that what God gives us is not for ourselves alone. God gives to us in trust, that we may feed the hungry."—*"Mount of Blessing,"* pp. 163, 164.

15. How tactfully did the Syrophœnician woman answer Christ as He tested her faith? Matt. 15:27.

NOTE.—This woman made no comparisons of God's treatment of her with that which He rendered to others. No national or racial prejudice or pride influenced her. She yielded to His influence, and humbly, courteously, pleaded her case. Let us stop measuring ourselves by ourselves and approach the throne of grace as humbly as she did.

ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS

Do you realize your utter dependence on God, or do you just say so outwardly while inwardly glorying in the fact that you are independent and are "no subject of charity"?

Of whom else should we think when we pray, "Give us this day our daily bread"?

"The Spirit of Christ is the spirit of missions, and the nearer we get to Him the more intensely missionary we must become." That "nickel or more" each Sabbath given in Christ's name is given to Him, and it will be laid up for the giver in the bank of heaven.

Lesson 6—November 5, 1932

DAILY LESSON STUDY: For your record, place a check mark in the proper space.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SABBATH

"Forgive Us Our Debts, as We Forgive Our Debtors"

A Sinner and His Saviour

LESSON TEXT: Matthew 6:12.

MEMORY VERSE: "The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with loving-kindness have I drawn thee." Jer. 31:3.

INTRODUCTORY THOUGHT

We are now entering upon the second phase of the Lord's Prayer. In the first five lessons we have seen God as Father, Creator, King, Master, and Benefactor. From now on we see Him under the more sacrificial rôles of Saviour, Guide, and Deliverer.

Because Christ took our sin, He can well show us how to pray this prayer, for no one ever manifested such a forgiving spirit as He.

"In their work the disciples would have to meet persecution through the jealousy and hatred of the Jews; but this had been endured by their Master, and they were not to flee from it. The first offers of mercy must be made to the murderers of the Saviour."—*"The Desire of Ages,"* p. 820.

While Christ, through His infinite love, provided the way, yet His pardon cannot be realized unless we manifest the spirit of forgiveness toward those who have wronged us.

THE LESSON

RELATION OF THE SAVIOUR TO THE SINNER

1. How fully do the Scriptures indicate the eternity and supremacy of God's love for fallen man? Jer. 31:3; Rom. 8:39.

NOTE.—"Our Saviour is always ready to hear and answer the prayer of the contrite heart, and grace and peace are multiplied to His faithful ones. Gladly He grants them the blessings they need in their struggle against the evils that beset them."—*"The Acts of the Apostles,"* p. 532.

2. What evidence do we have that Christ's love and sacrifice were altogether voluntary? Rom. 5:8; John 10:17, 18.

NOTE.—"But few will follow His example in earnest, frequent prayer to God for strength to endure the trials of this life and perform its daily duties. Christ is the captain of our salvation, and by His own sufferings and sacrifice He has given an example to all His followers, that watchfulness and prayer, and persevering effort, were necessary on their part if they would rightly represent the love which dwelt in His bosom for the fallen race."—*"Testimonies,"* vol. 2, p. 664.

3. When man sold himself and his possessions to the enemy, how much did he receive in return? Isa. 52:3.

4. What relationship must exist between the Redeemer and the one who had sold himself or his possessions? Lev. 25:25, 47-49.

NOTE.—The unfortunate man is entirely dependent on the mercy of the kinsman-redeemer. He has no money. He cannot redeem himself.

5. What relation did Christ assume that according to the law He might be a Saviour and Redeemer to those who have sold themselves and their possessions for naught? Gal. 4:4, 5; Phil. 2:7, 8.

NOTE.—The incarnation was accomplished according to the law of redemption. By this means Christ became our Elder Brother and by the law had the right to redeem. The whole book of Ruth is built around this central theme. The character Boaz is the (Hebrew) "Goel" or "kinsman-redeemer." The same word translated "kinsman" in Ruth 2:1 is translated "redeemer" in Psalm 19:14. It is a dual office. In order to be a redeemer he must be "nigh of kin." Thus Boaz typifies Christ, and Ruth typifies the alien and stranger wholly dependent on His benevolence.

"The Elder Brother of our race is by the eternal throne. He looks upon every soul who is turning his face toward Him as the Saviour."—*"The Desire of Ages,"* p. 329.

6. By the very nature of the case, who must take the initial step? Rom. 5:6-10; 1 John 4:19.

7. Who pays the price of reconciliation? 2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Peter 1:18, 19.

8. Who provides the way for sinners' redemption? John 14:6; Acts 4:12.

NOTE.—"Yes; Christ has become the medium of prayer between man and God. He has also become the medium of blessing between God and man. He has united divinity with humanity. Men are to coöperate with Him for the salvation of their own souls, and then make earnest, persevering efforts to save those who are ready to die."—*"Testimonies,"* vol. 8, p. 178.

9. What was an essential part of Christ's sacrifice for sin? *Answer.*—Suffering. 1 Peter 3:18; Heb. 2:18.

10. Of what may we be assured concerning One who has thus suffered? John 13:1.

11. What power is given to the Redeemer? John 10:28, 29; Jude 24.

12. Because He is all powerful, what will He do for us? Heb. 7:25; 1 John 1:9.

RELATION OF THE SINNER TO THE SAVIOUR

13. How utterly dependent are we upon this Kinsman-Redeemer? Acts 4:12; John 15:4, 5.

14. Realizing our helplessness without Him, what strong appeal does God make to us? Ezek. 33:11.

15. What gracious promise does He give? Rev. 3:20.

16. Before we can confess our sins, what sense of need must be born in us? Luke 18:13; Isa. 6:5.

NOTE.—"By faith and prayer all may meet the requirements of the gospel. No man can be forced to transgress. His own consent must be first gained. . . . 'The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and His ears are open unto their prayers.' Cry unto the Lord, tempted soul. Cast yourself, helpless, unworthy, upon Jesus, and claim this very promise. The Lord will hear."—*"Testimonies,"* vol. 5, p. 177.

17. How does justification come? Rom. 5:1, 2.

NOTE.—The relationship of the sinner to the Saviour is well summed up in the acrostic:

F-orsaking
A-ll
I
T-ake
H-im

"Take time to pray, and as you pray, believe that God hears you. Have faith mixed with your prayers. You may not at all times feel the immediate answer; but then it is that faith is tried. You are proved to see whether you will trust in God, whether you have living, abiding faith. 'Faithful is He that calleth you, who also will do it.' Walk the narrow plank of faith. Trust all on the promises of the Lord. Trust God in darkness. That is the time to have faith."—*"Testimonies,"* vol. 1, p. 167.

18. **What attitude will this experience create in our hearts toward God? Ps. 31:23, 24.**

19. **What attitude will it create toward our fellows? 1 John 3:16; Eph. 4:32.**

NOTE.—"We ourselves owe everything to God's free grace. . . . Let this grace be revealed to others.

"Give the erring one no occasion for discouragement. Suffer not a Pharisaical hardness to come in and hurt your brother. Let no bitter sneer rise in mind or heart. Let no tinge of scorn be manifest in the voice. If you speak a word of your own, if you take an attitude of indifference, or show suspicion or distrust, if may prove the ruin of a soul. He needs a brother with the Elder Brother's heart of sympathy to touch his heart of humanity. Let him feel the strong clasp of a sympathizing hand, and hear the whisper, Let us pray. God will give a rich experience to you both."—*"Christ's Object Lessons,"* p. 250.

20. **What spirit will then pervade all our lives? 2 Cor. 9:15; 1 Cor. 15:57.**

Lesson 7—November 12, 1932

DAILY LESSON STUDY: For your record, place a check mark in the proper space.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SABBATH

"Lead Us Not Into Temptation"

The Pilgrim and His Guide

LESSON TEXT: Matthew 6:13.

MEMORY VERSE: "I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not; I will lead them in paths that they have not known: I will make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight. These things will I do unto them and not forsake them." Isa. 42:16.

INTRODUCTORY THOUGHT

Christ went all of the way as a pilgrim. He took the pilgrim journey that He might be our Guide. In His pilgrimage He became an example to us. Each

new day's experience was opened to Him by the Father. As the Holy Spirit led Christ on to the battlefield of life, so He permits tests and obstacles to come into our lives, yet He always provides needed strength for every emergency. Wonderful opportunities open to us under the leadership of such a Guide, but with the opportunities comes a very definite responsibility toward the Guide.

THE LESSON

RELATION OF THE GUIDE TO THE PILGRIM

1. What qualification is of primary importance in the Guide? Ps. 23: 2, 3; Isa. 42:16.

NOTE.—We expect the guide to lead. How incensed we become if one of the party tries to go ahead of the guide! What foolish mistakes are made if this is permitted! The Lord's Prayer is one of complete confidence in our heavenly Guide.

2. With what is this heavenly Guide acquainted? Ps. 139:3; Heb. 4:15.

NOTE.—Having gone the way before us, Christ is thoroughly informed concerning every pitfall. "If we had to bear anything which Jesus did not endure, then upon this point Satan would represent the power of God as insufficient for us. Therefore Jesus was 'in all points tempted like as we are.' He endured every trial to which we are subject. And He exercised in His own behalf no power that is not freely offered to us. As man, He met temptation, and overcame in the strength given Him from God."—*"The Desire of Ages,"* p. 24.

3. With what sympathy and tenderness does our heavenly Guide lead us? Ps. 23:4; 86:15.

NOTE.—"Daily beset by temptation, constantly opposed by the leaders of the people, Christ knew that He must strengthen His humanity by prayer. In order to be a blessing to men, He must commune with God, pleading for energy, perseverance, and steadfastness. Thus He showed His disciples where His strength lay. Without this daily communion with God, no human being can gain power for service."—*"Counsels to Teachers,"* p. 323.

"Christ clothed His divinity with humanity, and lived a life of prayer and self-denial, and of daily battle with temptation, that He might help those who to-day are assailed by temptation."—*"Testimonies,"* vol. 9, p. 279.

4. How cautious is our Guide concerning the roughness of the road? 1 Cor. 10:13.

NOTE.—Not having gone the way before, the pilgrim may at times feel discouraged by the roughness of the way. But our Guide knows what He is doing. Is not this the very kernel of this portion of the Lord's Prayer? Christ is not to free us from all temptation, but we are to trust His wisdom to give us only that which will make us the best instruments for His use.

5. To all the sympathy and caution that a wise Saviour is capable of giving, what other characteristic is added? Ps. 32:8; Prov. 2:6.

NOTE.—Through wise instruction based on the laboratory method of letting us work things out for ourselves, we are training constantly for the work of serving as under guides. Each day's trial is but a lesson that will give us the experience needed to qualify us for the arduous task of guiding others.

"The very trials that task our faith most severely, and make it seem that God has forsaken us, are to lead us closer to Christ, that we may lay all our

burdens at His feet, and experience the peace which He will give us in exchange."—*"Patriarchs and Prophets,"* p. 129.

6. Who is the specially qualified helper given to every pilgrim? What is His mission? John 16:13.

NOTE.—"The Spirit was to be given as a regenerating agent, and without this the sacrifice of Christ would have been of no avail. The power of evil had been strengthening for centuries, and the submission of men to this satanic captivity was amazing. Sin could be resisted and overcome only through the mighty agency of the Third Person of the Godhead, who would come with no modified energy, but in the fullness of divine power."—*"The Desire of Ages,"* p. 671.

7. How dependable is our Guide? Heb. 13:5; Mal. 3:6.

8. What will the life and conduct of our Guide inspire all who follow Him to do? John 14:12; Phil. 4:13.

9. What special light has the Guide supplied for His followers? Ps. 119:105.

NOTE.—"The Bible should never be studied without prayer. The Holy Spirit alone can cause us to feel the importance of those things easy to be understood, or prevent us from wresting truths difficult of comprehension. It is the office of heavenly angels to prepare the heart to so comprehend God's word that we shall be charmed with its beauty, admonished by its warnings, or animated and strengthened by its promises. . . . Temptations often appear irresistible because, through neglect of prayer and the study of the Bible, the tempted one cannot readily remember God's promises and meet Satan with the Scripture weapons."—*"The Great Controversy,"* pp. 599, 600.

RELATION OF THE PILGRIM TO THE GUIDE

10. What is indicated to be one of the causes of Peter's denial of Christ? Mark 14:54.

NOTE.—Like all pilgrims, Peter found out through sad experience that when the Guide is followed "afar off" it is easy to have the attention turned to other things. Our Guide will not go too fast; it is our responsibility to follow close up. It saves many a needless explanation and many misunderstandings.

"All your good purposes and good intentions will not enable you to withstand the test of temptation. You must be men of prayer. Your petitions must be, not faint, occasional, and fitful, but earnest, persevering, and constant. It is not necessary to be alone, or to bow upon your knees, to pray; but in the midst of your labor, your souls may be often uplifted to God, taking hold upon His strength; then you will be men of high and holy purpose, of noble integrity, who will not for any consideration be swayed from truth, right, and justice." —*"Testimonies,"* vol. 4, p. 542, 543.

11. What will the spiritual weapons of our warfare accomplish? 2 Cor. 10:5.

NOTE.—The pilgrim is prone to imagine all kinds of difficulties, and to fear that the guide will not lead him in the right way. He may complain and resist the instruction of his leader.

"The victory is not won without much earnest prayer, without the humbling of self at every step. Our will is not to be forced into coöperation with

divine agencies, but it must be voluntarily submitted. . . . The will must be placed on the side of God's will."—*"Mount of Blessing,"* p. 204.

12. How should the pilgrim relate himself to the Guide's instruction? Ps. 95:7, 8; John 12:35.

NOTE.—"God permits trials to assail His people, that by their constancy and obedience they themselves may be spiritually enriched, and that their example may be a source of strength to others."—*"Patriarchs and Prophets,"* p. 129.

13. In following his Guide, what responsibility did Paul feel for others? 1 Cor. 4:9.

NOTE.—Pilgrims exert a great deal of influence over their fellows. The joyous deportment of one is like leaven among the others. As we pray for strength to submit to our Guide's leading, we are unconsciously asking for the power of influence over others traveling the same way.

14. What confidence must we manifest in our Guide? Job 23:10; 13:15.

15. What counsel to endure is given us? 2 Tim. 2:3, 12; James 1:12.

NOTE.—One of the chief traits in Christ's life was endurance. As subordinate guides this characteristic must also be in our lives. "To stand in defense of truth and righteousness when the majority forsake us, to fight the battles of the Lord when champions are few,—this will be our test."—*"Testimonies,"* vol. 5, p. 136.

THOUGHTS FOR ADDITIONAL STUDY—RUTH'S PRAYER

Study the plea of Ruth to her mother-in-law, Naomi, in Ruth 1:16, 17. Ruth made a good pilgrim, and her Guide never failed her. Christ wants to train me as a guide. Am I the kind of pilgrim that will one day be His ideal guide? Not unless I can pray in full surrender, "Lead us not into temptation."

Lesson 8—November 19, 1932

DAILY LESSON STUDY: For your record, place a check mark in the proper space.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SABBATH

"But Deliver Us From Evil"

The Captive and His Deliverer

LESSON TEXT: Matthew 6:13.

MEMORY VERSE: "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." John 8:36.

INTRODUCTORY THOUGHT

Most captives long to be freed from bondage, but our trouble seems to be that we are content with our lot and do not care to be delivered. If we pray this prayer earnestly, we shall manifest the proper characteristics of the captive whose very anxiety is his strongest plea.

In connection with this lesson, review carefully the deliverance of the children of Israel from being prisoners in the "house of bondage." See how many of the characteristics of the Deliverer were manifested by God, and how few

of the characteristics of the captive were shown by Israel. This experience is but a mirror of our deliverance from the house of spiritual bondage to-day.

THE LESSON

RELATION OF DELIVERER TO CAPTIVE

1. What will be experienced by the prisoners of sin who give themselves to Christ? Isa. 49:9; John 8:36.

2. To what will the Deliverer direct the escaped prisoners? 2 Thess. 3:5.

3. How fully is our Deliverer acquainted with the temptations from which He is to deliver us? Heb. 2:18; 4:15.

NOTE.—"Satan with his fierce temptations wrung the heart of Jesus. The Saviour could not see through the portals of the tomb. Hope did not present to Him His coming forth from the grave a conqueror, or tell Him of the Father's acceptance of the sacrifice. He feared that sin was so offensive to God, that their separation was to be eternal. Christ felt the anguish which the sinner will feel when mercy shall no longer plead for the guilty race."—*"The Desire of Ages,"* p. 753.

"Of the bitterness that falls to the lot of humanity, there was no part which Christ did not taste. . . . If He had responded by an impatient word or look, if He had conceded to His brothers by even one wrong act, He would have failed of being a perfect example."—*Id.*, p. 88.

4. What was Christ willing to suffer that He might become our Deliverer? 1 Peter 2:24.

NOTE.—"Into the world where Satan claimed dominion God permitted His Son to come a helpless babe, subject to the weakness of humanity. He permitted Him to meet life's peril in common with every human soul, to fight the battle as every child of humanity must fight it, at the risk of failure and eternal loss."—*Id.*, p. 49.

"Christ suffered keenly under abuse and insult. At the hands of the beings whom He had created, and for whom He was making an infinite sacrifice, He received every indignity. And He suffered in proportion to the perfection of His holiness and His hatred of sin. His trial by men who acted as fiends was to Him a perpetual sacrifice."—*Id.*, p. 700.

5. How did Christ convince Peter that He was acquainted with Satan's plan of action? Luke 22:31.

NOTE.—Just as fully as Christ knew the trials and temptations that were to come into the life of Peter, He knows the trials which we must meet. He can and will provide the power to enable us to come forth from these trials more than conquerors if we will have it so.

6. What assurance is given us that our Deliverer is stronger than the enemy? 1 Thess. 1:10; 1 John 4:4.

7. What did our Deliverer suffer that He might save us? Heb. 2:14, 15.

8. When were the plans laid for this deliverance from the pit of sin? 1 Peter 1:20, 21.

9. How great was the love in the heart of the Deliverer to cause Him to make such a sacrifice? Ps. 18:19; Jer. 31:3.

RELATION OF CAPTIVE TO DELIVERER

10. What illustration is used by Jeremiah to show the captive's submission to his Deliverer? Jer. 18:6.

11. Though unable to see the way out, what are we to do? Ps. 7:1, 2; 31:1, 2.

12. What must the captive of sin realize in order that he may be delivered? Rom. 7:24.

NOTE.—"If Satan sees that he is in danger of losing one soul, he will exert himself to the utmost to keep that one. And when the individual is aroused to his danger, and, with distress and fervor, looks to Jesus for strength, Satan fears that he shall lose a captive, and he calls a reënforcement of his angels to hedge in the poor soul, and form a wall of darkness around him, that heaven's light may not reach him. But if the one in danger perseveres, and in his helplessness casts himself upon the merits of the blood of Christ, our Saviour listens to the earnest prayer of faith, and sends a reënforcement of those angels that excel in strength to deliver him. . . . And when angels, all-powerful, clothed with the armory of heaven, come to the help of the fainting, pursued soul, Satan and his host fall back, well knowing that their battle is lost."—*"Testimonies,"* vol. 1, pp. 345, 346.

13. What must the captive do? Ps. 91:15.

14. As prisoners of hope, what fundamental trait of character will be developed? Ps. 40:1, 2; Luke 21:19.

NOTE.—"After the prayer is made, if the answer is not realized immediately, do not weary of waiting, and become unstable. Waver not. Cling to the promise, 'Faithful is He that calleth you, who also will do it.' Like the importunate widow, urge your case, being firm in your purpose. Is the object important and of great consequence to you? It certainly is. Then waver not; for your faith may be tried. If the thing you desire is valuable, it is worthy of a strong, earnest effort. You have the promise, watch and pray. Be steadfast, and the prayer will be answered; for is it not God who has promised? If it costs you something to obtain it, you will prize it the more when obtained. You are plainly told that if you waver you need not think that you shall receive anything of the Lord. A caution is here given not to become weary, but to rest firmly upon the promise. If you ask, He will give you liberally, and upbraid not."—*"Testimonies,"* vol. 2, p. 131.

15. What spirit must be in us if we are to be saved? *Answer.*—The spirit of sacrifice which actuated the Master. Rom. 12:1; 1 John 3:16.

16. What part does hope play in the prisoner's life? Ps. 43:5; 71:14.

17. What spirit of thankfulness should possess us? Ps. 50:14, 15.

THOUGHTS FOR ADDITIONAL STUDY

As we look at Christ's life and see how perfectly He fitted into man's place, we realize how He could fittingly instruct His disciples how to pray. May we understand the privileges that are ours, and may we also plead with God to make us willing to accept the responsibilities that go with our privileges.

THIRTEENTH SABBATH OFFERING, December 31, 1932

Mission Work of the Northern European Division

DAILY LESSON STUDY: For your record, place a check mark in the proper space.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SABBATH

"Thine Is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory, Forever. Amen"

Reasons for Surrender

LESSON TEXT: Matthew 6:13.

MEMORY VERSE: "They shall speak of the glory of Thy kingdom, and talk of Thy power; to make known to the sons of men His mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of His kingdom." Ps. 145:11, 12.

INTRODUCTORY THOUGHT

There are two kinds of prayer,—the prayer of surrender and the prayer of intercession. In the preceding eight lessons the thought is developed that the Lord's Prayer is a prayer of surrender. No mention of intercession is in it. We are to surrender to God as a child surrenders to its father, as a creature to his Creator, as a subject to his ruler, as a servant to his master, as a suppliant to his benefactor, as a sinner to his Saviour, as a pilgrim to his guide, as a prisoner to his deliverer. Each comparison has its own meaning. It takes all to describe the full surrender God desires us to make to Him, not for His exaltation, but for our welfare. Now He gives us the reasons for our complete surrender. This experience becomes the gateway to a life that "measures with the life of God," to a prayer of intercession on behalf of thousands who do not know Christ and His love. Will you surrender as Christ desires you to do, and enter into this wider service?

THE LESSON

THE KINGDOM

1. **To whom does the kingdom belong? Ps. 22:28.**

NOTE.—That Satan should try by any of his plans to wrest the kingdom from its rightful owner, brands him as a robber. The owner of this wonderful kingdom not only offers to share it with us, but desires so to train us that we may be corulers in the kingdom. Why does anyone resist and rebel?

2. **For how long is this kingdom to last? Ps. 145:13.**

3. **What disposition will be made of all other kingdoms? Dan. 2:44.**

4. **Upon what principle is this kingdom established? Rom. 14:17; Rev. 21:27.**

NOTE.—"Not by force of arms, not by violent interpositions, was the kingdom of God to prevail, but by the implanting of a new principle in the hearts of men. . . . Christ had come, not as a king, but as a sower; not for the overthrow of kingdoms, but for the scattering of seed; not to point His followers to earthly triumphs and national greatness, but to a harvest to be gathered after patient toil, and through losses and disappointments."—*"Christ's Object Lessons,"* p. 35.

5. **What is expected of the saints of God? Ps. 145:12.**

NOTE.—Even in this life the saints are to make known the nature of the

kingdom that is within. This can be done best by the transformation of life that is seen by the world. Our lives are to be an inexplicable mystery to Satan, who cannot understand the life of love and service that is made possible by the indwelling Christ. If we will fully surrender, this majesty may be seen in our lives in all its beauty as it was in the life of the Master.

6. Who will compose this kingdom? Rev. 21:7; Luke 13:29.

7. To whom will God give His kingdom? Dan. 7:18, 27.

NOTE.—"In the kingdoms of the world, position meant self-aggrandizement. The people were supposed to exist for the benefit of the ruling classes. Influence, wealth, education, were so many means of gaining control of the masses for the use of the leaders. The higher classes were to think, decide, enjoy, and rule; the lower were to obey and serve. . . .

"Christ was establishing a kingdom on different principles. He called men, not to authority, but to service, the strong to bear the infirmities of the weak. Power, position, talent, education, placed their possessor under the greater obligation to serve his fellows. To even the lowliest of Christ's disciples it is said, 'All things are for your sakes.' "—*"The Desire of Ages,"* p. 550.

8. What does the psalmist say of the scepter of God's kingdom? Ps. 45:6.

9. What special responsibility will be given to the saints? 1 Cor. 6:2, 3.

THE POWER

10. Wherein is God's power revealed? Isa. 40:26; Matt. 28:18.

11. How else does God manifest His power? 1 Peter 1:5.

NOTE.—"Sweetly to us, as to the first disciples, comes the assurance that God's kingdom ruleth over all. The program of coming events is in the hands of our Maker. The Majesty of heaven has the destiny of nations, as well as the concerns of the church, in His own charge. . . . Those whom God employs as His messengers are not to feel that His work is dependent upon them. Finite beings are not left to carry this burden of responsibility."—*"Mount of Blessing,"* p. 175.

12. What deliverance will God's omnipotence bring to His people? 2 Tim. 4:18.

13. For what purpose is power granted to the saints? Acts 1:8.

NOTE.—"That we may unite with Christ in this work, we should place ourselves under the molding influence of His Spirit. Through the power thus imparted, we may coöperate with the Lord in the bonds of unity as laborers together with Him in the salvation of souls. To every one who offers himself to the Lord for service, withholding nothing, is given power for the attainment of measureless results."—*"Testimonies,"* vol. 7, p. 30.

14. From what does God's power finally ransom us? Ps. 49:15.

15. In what further way is this power manifested? Rev. 7:16, 17.

THE GLORY

16. How enduring is the glory of the Lord? Ps. 104:31.

17. With what is the earth to be filled? Ps. 72:19.

18. Of what does nature testify? Ps. 19:1.

19. In whom is this glory to be revealed? Rom. 8:18; John 17:22.

20. What should be the theme of our conversation? Ps. 145:11.

DAILY LESSON STUDY: For your record, place a check mark in the proper space.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SABBATH

Hindrances to Prayer

MEMORY VERSE: "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me." Ps. 66:18.

INTRODUCTORY THOUGHT

"Prayer is the key in the hand of faith to unlock heaven's storehouse." Satan knows he is helpless if we use the key. It is there for us, so his only hope is to keep us from using it. In studying this lesson, let us become familiar with his various inventions that we may not be denied the resources of Omnipotence.

THE LESSON

1. What effect will idolatry have upon God's answers to our prayers? Jer. 11:10, 11.

NOTE.—"Man is forbidden to give to any other object the first place in his affections or his service. Whatever we cherish that tends to lessen our love for God or to interfere with the service due Him, of that do we make a god." —*"Patriarchs and Prophets,"* p. 305.

2. What does the Lord say about the prayers of those who regard iniquity in the heart? Ps. 66:18.

NOTE.—"These are perilous times for the church of God, and the greatest danger now is that of self-deception. Individuals professing to believe the truth are blind to their own danger and wrongs. They reach the standard of piety which has been set up by their friends and themselves, they are fellowshiped by their brethren, and are satisfied, while they entirely fail to reach the gospel standard set up by our divine Lord."—*"Testimonies,"* vol. 1, p. 214.

3. What is God's charge against Israel concerning His love? Mal. 1:2, first part.

NOTE.—"To praise God in fullness and sincerity of heart is as much a duty as is prayer. We are to show to the world and to all the heavenly intelligences that we appreciate the wonderful love of God for fallen humanity, and that we are expecting larger and yet larger blessings from His infinite fullness."—*"Christ's Object Lessons,"* p. 299.

Malachi gives a list of eight ways in which Israel failed to respond to the wonderful manifestations of God's grace and love. As they are studied, it will be seen that real prayer of surrender cannot be uttered while such feelings exist in the heart. (See "Prophets and Kings," pp. 703-721.)

4. What attitude had Israel taken toward God's name? Mal. 1:6.

NOTE.—How may we despise His name? "You cannot hallow His name, you cannot represent Him to the world, unless in life and character you represent the very life and character of God. This you can do only through the acceptance of the grace and righteousness of Christ."—*"Mount of Blessing,"* p. 158.

5. What did Israel offer to the Lord? Verse 13.

NOTE.—When we make self first in any way do we not bring a lame, sick offering to Him who, setting aside every selfish desire, took upon Him the form of a servant that He might redeem us? Let each one look within his own heart and inquire what kind of offering he is bringing to God.

6. What effect did Israel's envying the workers of iniquity have on the Lord? Mal. 2:17.

NOTE.—How difficult it must be for God to hear His children envying the workers of iniquity! Let us stop all this complaining against God because we are not so well treated as we would desire or because we see others amassing fortunes, or enjoying worldly pleasures. Why can we not leave these things with God and be happy to serve Him in any capacity He desires?

7. From what had Israel departed? Mal. 3:7.

NOTE.—The Christian has various ordinances to-day which depict the sacrifice and constant love of our Master. No one who fully grasps the significance of these ordinances can absent himself from their celebration without serious loss.

8. In what way had they robbed God? Verse 8.

NOTE.—"Of all our income we should make the first appropriation to God. In the system of beneficence enjoined upon the Jews they were required either to bring to the Lord the first fruits of all His gifts, whether in the increase of their flocks or herds, or in the produce of their fields, orchards, or vineyards, or they were to redeem it by substituting an equivalent. How changed the order of things in our day! The Lord's requirements and claims if they receive any attention are left till the last. Yet our work needs tenfold more means now than was needed by the Jews."—*"Testimonies,"* vol. 4, p. 474.

"It is not God's purpose that Christians, whose privileges far exceed those of the Jewish nation, shall give less freely than they gave. . . . The liberality required of the Hebrews was largely to benefit their own nation; to-day the work of God extends over all the earth. . . . Surely our obligations are much greater than were those of ancient Israel."—*"The Acts of the Apostles,"* pp. 337, 338.

9. How had Israel criticized God's dealings? Verses 13, 14.

NOTE.—Name five ways that you think could be called "speaking against God." Take your illustrations from present-day experiences. If you were doing for mankind all that God is doing for you, how would you feel to have those you loved malign your every motive? Much as you long to do so, you cannot impart to them the help you desire to give so long as they feel that way. Let us stop finding fault with God or His creatures.

10. Who was not justified because of cherishing unworthy motives while praying? Luke 18:11, 12.

11. What does Christ mention as one of the hindrances to prevailing prayer? Matt. 6:7.

12. What does James say is necessary in prayer? James 1:6.

NOTE.—"There is no danger that the Lord will neglect the prayers of His people. The danger is that in temptation and trial they will become discouraged, and fail to persevere in prayer."—*"Christ's Object Lessons,"* p. 175.

ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS

My prayer for myself cannot be answered—

1. If there is any bitterness in my heart because of the great trials and griefs that God allows to come to me.

2. If I question God's leadership when trials and difficult problems press heavily upon me.

3. If, because of efficiency in any line, I feel independent of God and His power.

4. If I look with scorn on those making mistakes in their Christian life.

Lesson 11—December 10, 1932

DAILY LESSON STUDY: For your record, place a check mark in the proper space.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SABBATH

Intercessory Prayer

MEMORY VERSE: "Wherefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them." Heb. 7:25.

INTRODUCTORY THOUGHT

After man has learned the prayer of surrender, the Bible clearly indicates that there are heights beyond in his association with God that he has little dreamed of. These mountain peaks of experience lie in the field of intercessory prayer. The Lord's prayer of surrender becomes a kind of vestibule, as it were. The main room where God wishes His children to live is the glorious experience of taking part with Christ in the work of intercession and redemption. Having fully surrendered to God's plan for us, we are now in a position to be instruments of righteousness in His hand to bring the glad tidings to others.

"Make me an intercessor, teach me how to prevail,
To stand my ground and still pray on though powers of hell assail.
Make me an intercessor in Spirit touch with thee
And given the heavenly vision, pray through to victory.
Make me an intercessor, till pleading at Thy throne
The sins and sorrows of other lives become to me as my own."

THE LESSON

ABRAHAM

1. Why did God tell Abraham of His intentions toward Sodom? Gen. 18:17-19.

NOTE.—As a father yearns to take his son into partnership with him, so God seems to delight to associate with Himself those of His children who can think His thoughts after Him, who can enter into His plans, who can be His lieutenants in the controversy with sin. What a perpetual joy it must be to Him to see men and women steeped in sin, deliberately turn from it and surrender to Him for warfare against it, because that is right. It is one of the

greatest evidences He has to present before the universe, that man loves Him not for what He does for him, but for what He is.

2. With what words did Abraham intercede for Sodom? Verses 23-25.

NOTE.—Abraham did not present as a reason for his request any sacrifice of his or any act of obedience on His part. He interceded for Sodom because of God's justice and mercy. After surrendering our lives to Him, we may plead His great justice and mercy as we intercede for others.

3. How many times did Abraham again intercede on behalf of Sodom? Verses 27-33.

NOTE.—"Abraham asked not once merely, but many times. . . . His deep interest for Sodom shows the anxiety that we should feel for the impenitent. . . . All around us are souls going down to ruin as hopeless, as terrible, as that which befell Sodom. Every day the probation of some is closing. Every hour some are passing beyond the reach of mercy. And where are the voices of warning and entreaty to bid the sinner flee from this fearful doom? Where are the hands stretched out to draw him back from death? Where are those who with humility and persevering faith are pleading with God for him?"—*"Patriarchs and Prophets,"* p. 140.

MOSES

4. When the children of Israel reached Rephidim and found no water, what did they do? Ex. 17:2, 3.

5. Because of their murmuring, what did God permit to come? Verse 8.

NOTE.—"Because of their murmuring against Him, the Lord suffered them [the Israelites] to be attacked by their enemies."—*Id.*, p. 298.

6. What was the effect of Moses' intercession on behalf of Israel? Verse 11.

7. While Moses was interceding, what were Joshua and Israel doing? Verse 13.

NOTE.—"Divine strength is to be combined with human effort. Moses did not believe that God would overcome their foes while Israel remained inactive. While the great leader was pleading with the Lord, Joshua and his brave followers were putting forth their utmost efforts to repulse the enemies of Israel and of God."—*Id.*, p. 299.

8. When Israel fashioned the molten calf at Sinai, what did the Lord say to Moses? Ex. 32:9, 10.

NOTE.—"Moses discerned ground for hope where there appeared only discouragement and wrath. The words of God, 'Let Me alone,' he understood not to forbid but to encourage intercession, implying that nothing but the prayers of Moses could save Israel, but that if thus entreated, God would spare His people."—*Id.*, p. 318.

9. What was Moses' reply? Verses 11-13.

10. When on the morrow Moses met God, how earnestly did he intercede for Israel? Verses 31, 32.

NOTE.—"The prosperity of God's chosen people was dearer to him [Moses] than personal honor, dearer than the privilege of becoming the father of a mighty nation. God was pleased with his faithfulness, his simplicity of heart, and his integrity, and He committed to him, as a faithful shepherd, the great charge of leading Israel to the Promised Land."—*Id.*, p. 319.

11. When, after three and a half years' drought, Elijah met Ahab, what did he say to the king? 1 Kings 18:18, 19.

12. After the prophets of Baal had failed to bring down fire by their intercessions, with what words did Elijah intercede for Israel? Verses 36, 37.

13. When Elijah faced discouragement, how did God encourage him? 1 Kings 19:18.

NOTE.—"The apostasy prevailing to-day is similar to that which in the prophet's day overspread Israel. . . . Yet this apostasy, widespread as it has come to be, is not universal. Not all in the world are lawless and sinful; not all have taken sides with the enemy. God has many thousands who have not bowed the knee to Baal, many who long to understand more fully in regard to Christ and the law, many who are hoping against hope that Jesus will come soon to end the reign of sin and death. And there are many who have been worshiping Baal ignorantly, but with whom the Spirit of God is still striving. These need the personal help of those who have learned to know God and the power of His word."—*"Prophets and Kings,"* pp. 170, 171.

INTERCESSORS OF TO-DAY

14. What evidence do we have that the faithfulness and fidelity of Elijah will be seen before Christ comes? Mal. 4:5.

15. How does Ezekiel describe the experience of the intercessors just before Christ comes? Ezek. 9:3, 4.

NOTE.—"The crisis is fast approaching. The rapidly swelling figures [of those accepting the gospel] show that the time for God's visitation has about come. Although loath to punish, nevertheless He will punish, and that speedily. Those who walk in the light will see signs of the approaching peril; but they are not to sit in quiet, unconcerned expectancy of the ruin, comforting themselves with the belief that God will shelter His people in the day of visitation. Far from it. They should realize that it is their duty to labor diligently to save others, looking with strong faith to God for help."—*"Testimonies,"* vol. 5, p. 209.

16. What does Joel say about the same experience? Joel 2:15-17.

NOTE.—"Could the curtain be rolled back, could you discern the purposes of God and the judgments that are about to fall upon a doomed world, could you see your own attitude, you would fear and tremble for your own souls and for the souls of your fellow men. Earnest prayers of heart-rending anguish would go up to heaven. You would weep between the porch and the altar, confessing your spiritual blindness and backsliding."—*Id.*, vol. 6, p. 408.

ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS

Meditations for those who would enter the larger room of intercession:

1. Do the hard places in which I am placed make me pity myself?
2. Do "triumph and disaster" have the same effect,—lead me closer to Christ?
3. When forgotten, neglected, or purposely set aside, do I smilingly continue life's duties?
4. While trying to pray, have I found my cherished bitterness toward another making real prayer impossible?
5. Do I justify myself when sinning occasionally by saying that others sin also?
6. Do I feel at times that my friend's sin is no responsibility of mine?

DAILY LESSON STUDY: For your record, place a check mark in the proper space.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SABBATH

Intercessory Prayer (Concluded)

MEMORY VERSE: "Now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to Thee. Holy Father, keep through Thine own name those whom Thou hast given Me, that they may be one, as we are." John 17:11.

INTRODUCTORY THOUGHT

"The Redeemer of the world did not consult His own pleasure, but went about doing good. He bound Himself closely to the Father, that He might bring their united strength to bear upon the souls of men to save them from eternal ruin. In like manner should His servants cultivate spirituality if they expect to succeed in their work. Jesus pitied poor sinners so much that He left the courts of heaven, and laid aside the robes of royalty, humiliating Himself to humanity, that He might become acquainted with the needs of man and help him to rise above the degradation of the fall. When He has given to man such unquestionable evidence of His love and tenderest sympathy, how important that His representatives should imitate His example in coming close to their fellow men, and helping them to form a true Christian character."—*"Testimonies,"* vol. 4, p. 268.

THE LESSON

JOB

1. With what words before the assembled representatives of the universe had Satan taunted God concerning Job? Job 1:10, 11.

NOTE.—"It was generally believed by the Jews that sin is punished in this life. Every affliction was regarded as the penalty of some wrong-doing, either of the sufferer himself or of his parents. It is true that all suffering results from the transgression of God's law, but this truth had become perverted. Satan, the author of sin and all its results, had led men to look upon disease and death as proceeding from God,—as punishment arbitrarily inflicted on account of sin. Hence one upon whom some great affliction or calamity had fallen, had the additional burden of being regarded as a great sinner. Thus the way was prepared for the Jews to reject Jesus. He who 'hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows,' was looked upon by the Jews as 'stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted;' and they hid their faces from Him. God had given a lesson designed to prevent this. The history of Job had shown that suffering is inflicted by Satan, and is overruled by God for purposes of mercy. But Israel did not understand the lesson. The same error for which God had reproved the friends of Job was repeated by the Jews in their rejection of Christ."—*"The Desire of Ages,"* pp. 470, 471.

From the foregoing, the history of Job is to be interpreted in the experience of Christ. As Christ's experience is to be ours, the Book of Job should contain present-day help in preparation for the great crisis when God permits Satan to tempt the remnant.

2. What is shown concerning Job's reaction to serious personal loss and cruel tauntings? Job 13:15; 23:10.

"What matter if the clouds hang low?
What matter if the bleak winds blow?
What matter if I may not know
The reason why these things are so?
God reigns! I will be true."

3. Because of his faith and trust in God in the hour of trial, what blessing came to Job as he entered the experience of intercessory prayer for those who had wrongly accused him? Job 42:10.

DANIEL

4. What did Daniel give as his reason for approaching God concerning Israel? Dan. 9:2, 3.

NOTE.—"Daniel searched the portion of the Old Testament which he had at his command, and made the word of God his highest instructor. At the same time he improved the opportunities that were given him to become intelligent in all lines of learning. . . . Students that exalt the sciences above the God of science, will be ignorant when they think themselves very wise. If you cannot afford time to pray, cannot give time for communion with God, for self-examination, and do not appreciate that wisdom which comes alone from God, all your learning will be deficient, and your schools and colleges will be found wanting."—*"Fundamentals of Christian Education,"* p. 358.

5. As an intercessor, how did he identify himself with the people? Verses 5, 6.

NOTE.—"With faith founded on the sure word of prophecy, Daniel pleaded with the Lord for the speedy fulfillment of these promises. He pleaded for the honor of God to be preserved. In his petition he identified himself fully with those who had fallen short of the divine purpose, confessing their sins as his own."—*"Prophets and Kings,"* pp. 554, 555.

6. In asking for forgiveness, what did Daniel acknowledge? Verse 14.

CHRIST

7. How did Christ show that in interceding for Peter He had already anticipated his needs? Luke 22:31, 32.

8. By what reply did Peter show that he failed to sense his need? Verse 33.

NOTE.—"The great reason why so many professed disciples of Christ fall into grievous temptation and make work for repentance, is that they are deficient in a knowledge of themselves. Here is where Peter was so thoroughly sifted by the enemy. Here is where thousands will make shipwreck of faith. You do not take your wrongs and errors to heart, and afflict your souls over them. I entreat you to purify your souls by obeying the truth. Connect yourselves with heaven. And may the Lord save you from self-deception."—*"Testimonies,"* vol. 4, p. 246.

9. For whose sake did Christ, the great Intercessor, sanctify Himself? John 17:19.

NOTE.—"He it was who made supplication with strong crying and tears. He prayed not for Himself, but for those whom He came to save. As He became a suppliant, seeking at the hand of His Father fresh supplies of strength, and coming forth refreshed and invigorated as man's substitute, He identified

Himself with suffering humanity, and gave them an example of the necessity of prayer."—*Id.*, vol. 4, p. 528.

10. In exchange for our sin, what does our great Intercessor give us? Verse 22; 2 Cor. 5:21.

11. How efficient is this work of intercession on Christ's part? Heb. 7:25.

NOTE.—"God's appointments and grants in our behalf are without limit. The throne of grace is itself the highest attraction, because occupied by One who permits us to call Him Father. But God did not deem the principle of salvation complete while invested only with His own love. By His appointment He has placed at His altar an Advocate clothed with our nature. As our intercessor, His office work is to introduce us to God as His sons and daughters. Christ intercedes in behalf of those who have received Him. To them He gives power, by virtue of His own merits, to become members of the royal family, children of the heavenly King."—*Id.*, vol. 6, pp. 363, 364.

12. As our intercessor, what rebuke is administered to the adversary? Zech. 3:2-4.

NOTE.—"In a vision given in 1880 I asked, 'Where is the security for the people of God in these days of peril?' The answer was, 'Jesus maketh intercession for His people, though Satan standeth at His right hand to resist Him.' 'And the Lord said unto Satan, The Lord rebuke thee, O Satan; even the Lord that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?' As man's Intercessor and Advocate, Jesus will lead all who are willing to be led, saying, 'Follow Me upward, step by step, where the clear light of the Sun of Righteousness shines.' "—*"Testimonies to Ministers,"* p. 465.

HOLY SPIRIT

13. What part does the Holy Spirit act in intercession for the church? Rom. 8:26.

14. In harmony with whose will does the Spirit make intercession? Verse 27.

NOTE.—"Let us rejoice in this, that we are called into the fellowship of the Son of God in prayer. Three partners form this partnership. There is Christ, the living Intercessor on the throne, pleading for the church and world, His sacrifice on Calvary, with all its power to save to the uttermost, and lead to victory. In our hearts the Holy Spirit makes effectually operative His death. . . . The believer, indwelt by the Spirit, and in touch with the throne, proves the completeness of what has been won for him, as he goes forth to witness for Christ and win men to Him. Oh let us pray!"—*"Effectual Fervent Prayer,"* Gordon Watt, pp. 40, 41.

15. What did Paul say of the intense desire he had for his former Israelitish brethren? Rom. 9:3.

MEDITATIONS FOR THE INTERCESSOR

1. Can the stamp of the Master's approval be placed on my conversation?
2. When I see others exalted who I think do not have capabilities equal to mine, am I envious?
3. Do I prove by my life that it is too great sacrifice to yield all to Christ?
4. Do I always speak well of those who speak evil of me?
5. Do I talk to the sinner about his sin—or to my neighbor?

Lesson 13—December 24, 1932

DAILY LESSON STUDY: For your record, place a check mark in the proper space.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SABBATH

Hindrances to Intercessory Prayer

MEMORY VERSE: "Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts." James 4:3.

INTRODUCTORY THOUGHT

Prayer is necessary for our own life, and Satan does all in his power to make it of no avail. But doubly necessary is prayer for the intercessory life. In lesson ten we studied some of the hindrances Satan places before us to make prayer ineffectual in our own lives. Now let us see what hindrances he brings to intercessory prayer, first in our own personal experience and then in the experience of those for whom we would work.

"Prayer is neither a sentiment nor a theory: it is a working instrument which is to do certain things in behalf of righteous causes and in opposition to evil."—*"Effectual Fervent Prayer," Gordon Watt,* p. 54.

THE LESSON

1. Because Israel displayed before the nations their idolatrous disloyalty to God, what did He say concerning their prayers? Ezek. 8:15-18.

NOTE.—Idolatry is permitting any other person or thing to take the place of God in our affections. There may be idolatry within the life and also outside. The idolatry within is well described by the Sermon on the Mount. (Matt. 5-7.) But there is an idolatry lived out before the world in a multitude of ways that most effectually blocks any prayer of intercession. If those for whom we are working and praying see any manifestation of idolatry in our lives, a formidable and impassable barrier is immediately erected. How can God answer our petitions under these circumstances?

2. What reason does James give why prayer is not heard? James 4:3-5.

NOTE.—Nowhere do we find Jesus praying in order that He might consume the blessings on Himself. "Through continual communion He received life from God, that He might impart life to the world. His experience is to be ours."—*"The Desire of Ages,"* p. 363. Let us pray not for easier lives but to be stronger men. Quietly analyze your prayers of yesterday and see if this thought finds expression anywhere.

3. What definite characteristic should be in the prayer life of every intercessor? Eph. 6:18.

NOTE.—"By the grace of Christ the apostles were made what they were. It was sincere devotion and humble, earnest prayer that brought them into close communion with Him. They sat together with Him in heavenly places. They realized the greatness of their debt to Him. By earnest, persevering prayer they obtained the endowment of the Holy Spirit, and then they went forth, weighted with the burden of saving souls, filled with zeal to extend the triumphs of the cross."—*"Testimonies,"* vol. 7, p. 32.

One of the great reasons for lack of spirituality in the church is that the restlessness of the age has kept us from sincere, persevering effort for others.

It is but one of the many hindrances Satan places before us. It can be overcome by patient continuance in prayer.

4. What does Peter say may hinder the effectiveness of prayer in the life? 1 Peter 3:7.

NOTE.—"To a large degree the happiness of men and women and the success of the church depend upon home influence. Eternal interests are involved in the proper discharge of the everyday duties of life. The world is not so much in need of great minds, as of good men, who are a blessing in their homes." —*"Gospel Workers,"* p. 204.

5. What reason did Jesus give for the disciples' prayers not being heard? Matt. 17:18-21.

NOTE.—"The selection of the three disciples to accompany Jesus to the mountain had excited the jealousy of the nine. Instead of strengthening their faith by prayer and meditation on the words of Christ, they had been dwelling on their discouragements and personal grievances. In this state of darkness they had undertaken the conflict with Satan. In order to succeed in such a conflict they must come to the work in a different spirit. Their faith must be strengthened by fervent prayer and fasting, and humiliation of heart. They must be emptied of self, and be filled with the Spirit and power of God. Earnest, persevering supplication to God in faith,—faith that leads to entire dependence upon God, and unreserved consecration to His work,—can alone avail to bring men the Holy Spirit's aid in the battle against principalities and powers, the rulers of the darkness of this world, and wicked spirits in high places."—*"The Desire of Ages,"* p. 430.

6. How will the spirit of self-exaltation affect one's prayers? Luke 18:11-14.

NOTE.—"He who feels whole, who thinks that he is reasonably good, and is contented with his condition, does not seek to become a partaker of the grace and righteousness of Christ. Pride feels no need, and so it closes the heart against Christ and the infinite blessings He came to give. There is no room for Jesus in the heart of such a person. Those who are rich and honorable in their own eyes do not ask in faith, and receive the blessing of God. They feel that they are full, therefore they go away empty."—*"Mount of Blessing,"* p. 19.

7. What spirit possessed the brother when the prodigal returned home? Luke 15:29, 30.

8. That our prayers be not hindered, what should ever characterize our dealings with others, both within and without the church? Rom. 12:17; 1 Peter 2:12.

NOTE.—"Belief in the near coming of the Son of man in the clouds of heaven will not cause the true Christian to become neglectful and careless of the ordinary business of life. . . . I have been shown that here is where many will fail to bear the test. They develop their true character in the management of temporal concerns. They manifest unfaithfulness, scheming, dishonesty, in dealing with their fellow men. They do not consider that their hold upon the future, immortal life depends upon how they conduct themselves in the concerns of this life, and that the strictest integrity is indispensable to the formation of a righteous character. Dishonesty is practiced all through our ranks, and this is the cause of lukewarmness on the part of many who profess to believe the truth. They are not connected with Christ, and are deceiving their own souls."—*"Testimonies,"* vol. 4, pp. 309, 310.

9. What obstacle lay in the way of Jeremiah's interceding for Israel? Jer. 14:10-12.

NOTE.—"Many who profess the faith know not what true conversion is. They have no experience in communion with the Father through Jesus Christ, and have never felt the power of divine grace to sanctify the heart. Praying and sinning, sinning and praying, their lives are full of malice, deceit, envy, jealousy, and self-love. The prayers of this class are an abomination to God." —*Id.*, p. 534.

10. What caused Daniel to wait three weeks for the answer to his prayer for Israel? Dan. 10:12, 13.

11. If backsliding Israel had returned to the Lord and then intercession had been made for the nations round, what would have taken place? Jer. 3:12, 13, 17.

NOTE.—Nothing so hinders intercession as a backslidden condition on the part of the church. "The Lord does not now work to bring many souls into the truth, because of the church members who have never been converted, and those who were once converted but who have backslidden. What influence would these unconsecrated members have on new converts? Would they not make of no effect the God-given message which His people are to bear?"—*Id.*, vol. 6, p. 371.

12. What is Satan's master stroke in hindering devotion and intercession in this last generation? Rev. 3:15, 16.

NOTE.—"The figure of spewing out of His mouth means that He cannot offer up your prayers or your expressions of love to God. He cannot indorse your teaching of His word or your spiritual work in any wise. He cannot present your religious exercises with the request that grace be given you."—*Id.* p. 408.

13. What is Christ's counsel to the Laodiceans as a church of intercessors? Rev. 3:18.

NOTE.—"Have you so deep an appreciation of the sacrifice made on Calvary that you are willing to make every other interest subordinate to the work of saving souls? The same intensity of desire to save sinners that marked the life of the Saviour marks the life of His true follower. The Christian has no desire to live for self. He delights to consecrate all that he has and is to the Master's service. He is moved by an inexpressible desire to win souls to Christ." —*Id.*, vol. 7, p. 10.

ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS

My prayers for others may be hindered—

1. If my heart is not torn and bruised at the transgression of men because of their refusal to follow Christ.
2. If in dealing with others I show "respect of persons."
3. If my life shows others that I am content with the approval of man who "looketh on the outward adornment."

THIRTEENTH SABBATH OFFERING

December 31, 1932

Mission Work of the Northern European Division

Lesson 14—December 31, 1932

DAILY LESSON STUDY: For your record, place a check mark in the proper space.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SABBATH

Constraints to Prayer

MEMORY VERSE: "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." James 5:16.

INTRODUCTORY THOUGHT

"The idea that prayer is not essential is one of Satan's most successful devices to ruin souls. Prayer is communion with God, the fountain of wisdom, the source of strength, and peace, and happiness. Jesus prayed to the Father 'with strong crying and tears.' Paul exhorts believers to 'pray without ceasing,' in everything, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, making known their requests to God. 'Pray one for another,' James says. 'The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.' Heb. 5:7; 1 Thess. 5:17; James 5:16."—"*Testimonies,*" vol. 7, p. 42.

THE LESSON

1. What gracious invitation does God extend to His children? Matt. 11:28-30.

NOTE.—"If we keep the Lord ever before us, allowing our hearts to go out in thanksgiving and praise to Him, we shall have a continual freshness in our religious life. Our prayers will take the form of a conversation with God, as we would talk with a friend. He will speak His mysteries to us personally. Often there will come to us a sweet, joyful sense of the presence of Jesus. Often our hearts will burn within us as He draws nigh to commune with us as He did with Enoch. When this is in truth the experience of the Christian, there is seen in his life a simplicity, a humility, meekness, and lowliness of heart, that show to all with whom he associates that he has been with Jesus and learned of Him."—"*Christ's Object Lessons,*" pp. 129, 130.

2. What supreme gift is freely promised to all who make request? Luke 11:13.

NOTE.—"We must not only pray in Christ's name, but by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. This explains what is meant when it is said that the Spirit 'maketh intercession for us, with groanings which cannot be uttered.' Such prayer God delights to answer. When with earnestness and intensity we breathe a prayer in the name of Christ, there is in that very intensity a pledge from God that He is about to answer our prayer 'exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think.' "—*Id.*, p. 147.

3. What did David combine with prayer? Ps. 143:5-8.

NOTE.—"While we are to labor earnestly for the salvation of the lost, we must also take time for meditation, for prayer, and for the study of the word of God. Only the work accomplished with much prayer, and sanctified by the merit of Christ, will in the end prove to have been efficient for good."—"*The Desire of Ages,*" p. 362.

4. For what did David cry to the Lord? Ps. 86:11; 119:169.

NOTE.—"Every promise in the word of God furnishes us with subject matter for prayer, presenting the pledged word of Jehovah as our assurance. Whatever spiritual blessing we need, it is our privilege to claim through Jesus. We may tell the Lord, with the simplicity of a child, exactly what we need."—*"Mount of Blessing,"* p. 190.

5. In what words did David express his faith in God? Ps. 86:5-10.

NOTE.—"The greatest victories to the church of Christ or to the individual Christian, are not those that are gained by talent or education, by wealth, or the favor of men. They are those victories that are gained in the audience chamber with God, when earnest, agonizing faith lays hold upon the mighty arm of power."—*"Patriarchs and Prophets,"* p. 203.

6. In what manifestations of power will God answer the prayers of His saints? Ps. 65:4, 5.

NOTE.—"While engaged in our daily work, we should lift the soul to heaven in prayer. These silent petitions rise like incense before the throne of grace; and the enemy is baffled. The Christian whose heart is thus stayed upon God cannot be overcome. No evil arts can destroy his peace. All the promises of God's word, all the power of divine grace, all the resources of Jehovah, are pledged to secure his deliverance. It was thus that Enoch walked with God. And God was with him, a present help in every time of need."—*"Gospel Workers,"* p. 254.

7. When assailed by discouragement, in whom should we hope? Ps. 42: 4, 5.

NOTE.—"Oh, how evident that there is no real strength but that which God imparts to those who trust in Him! One petition offered up to God in faith has more power than a wealth of human intellect."—*"Testimonies,"* vol. 2, p. 279.

8. What comes to the petitioner as a result of prayer? Phil. 4:6, 7.

9. What is said of the prayer of those who abide in Christ? John 15:4-10.

10. What evidence is there that prayer brings results? Ps. 107:6, 7; 34:4; 50:15; Joel 2:32.

11. What did Paul say about prayer and boldness of spirit? Eph. 6: 18, 19.

12. To what does the revelator liken prayer? Rev. 5:8.

13. What marvelous transformation may be wrought through prayer? Ps. 40:1-5.

NOTE.—"Those who teach and preach the most effectively are those who wait humbly upon God, and watch hungrily for His guidance and His grace. Watch, pray, work—this is the Christian's watchword. The life of a true Christian is a life of constant prayer. He knows that the light and strength of one day is not sufficient for the trials and conflicts of the next. Satan is continually changing his temptations. Every day we shall be placed in different circumstances; and in the untried scenes that await us we shall be surrounded by fresh dangers, and constantly assailed by new and unexpected temptations. It is only through the strength and grace gained from heaven that we can hope to meet the temptations and perform the duties before us."—*"Gospel Workers,"* pp. 257, 258.

Thoughts from the

Mount of Blessing

By Ellen G. White

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