



WEEK 41 PRAYER

714

Pray then like this: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil .”

— MATTHEW 6:9-13 (ESV)

THE PRAYER

Lord, You teach us to pray, “Lead us not into temptation.” In the midst of this pandemic and the pain it has wrought, we can daily be tempted to become cynical, angry, frightened, and unbelieving. Yet, we look to You, Jesus, today. We find strength and comfort in the fact that You, too, lived in a world of hopelessness, oppression, and pain, and You were tempted in every possible way, yet You never sinned. Fill us with fresh resolve as we take our stand against these temptations. You say, “...My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” (2 Corinthians 12:9a)

Lord, in a world overwhelmed by rage, hopelessness, despair, and terror, we refuse to succumb to the enticing temptation of these deadly emotions. We resist the devil, knowing he must flee, and combat him through these following words: “Satan, in the name of Jesus, we resist your temptations!” Instead, we say, “Yes!” to our Heavenly Father and for His will for our lives! We will not slip away quietly into darkness and depression, the relentless highway to emotional doom. With millions of other believers, we stand before Your throne and boldly say, “COVID-19, be uprooted from our planet! Be replaced with a fresh revival of God’s presence and His Spirit.”

Heavenly Father, our world is in an evil hour. Therefore, we fervently utter the final words of the prayer Your Son, Jesus, taught us to pray: “Deliver us from evil.” The evils of COVID-19 are relentless calamities, panic, polarization, and economic chaos. You promise never to give us more than we can bear without providing a way of escape, so we can endure it (1 Corinthians 10:13). We choose to live in the protection and security of Your presence and promises today. We take our stand with You on the spiritual harvest fields of our broken cities and nations—in the face of brazen evil and unceasing temptation.

In the name of Jesus, we boldly ask You to deliver us from this present evil through the growth of Your Church and the advance of Your Kingdom in the world. Reveal and deal with the deceptive strategies of the enemy, and heal both our hearts and the hearts of those around us from the poisonous effects of these strategies. May Your Kingdom come! May Your will be done! Deliver us from evil, we pray. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.