



September 6, 2026

How to Pray: The Greatest Request

Free Grace Presbyterian Church

THOUGHTS FOR REFLECTION

Ascribe to the LORD the
glory due his name;
worship the LORD in the
splendor of holiness.
Psalm 29:2

"Hallowed be your name" is a petition that
pertains to God's reputation. It is a prayer that
God would be known to be God, in all his
holiness.

Philip Ryken
Presbyterian pastor and theologian, president of
Wheaton College

One thing have I asked of
the LORD, that will I seek after:
that I may dwell in the house of the
LORD all the days of my life, to gaze
upon the beauty of the LORD and
to inquire in his temple.
Psalm 27:4

This petition is that God should so work inwardly upon
the one who prays, and upon all others, that they shall
recognize Him in His Self-revelation and serve Him as the
Holy One—that they should render to Him, the divine Father,
all honor and adoration and should love and obey Him with their
whole heart.

Norval Geldenhuys

20th century South African pastor and New Testament scholar, professor of New Testament at the University of Pretoria

Holy, holy, holy is the
LORD of hosts; the
whole earth is full of his
glory!
Isaiah 6:3

Praying that God's name be hallowed does not mean that God's
name could be holier. Glorifying God isn't like using a microscope,
making small things look bigger; it's like using a telescope, bringing
into view things that are unimaginably big.

Kevin DeYoung

Senior pastor of Christ Covenant Church (PCA), moderator of the PCA's 52nd General Assembly. NOTE: This quotation is
from the 4th book in the "Turning Table" track which we welcome you to join if you have not yet begun.

We would wish God to have the honor he
deserves; men should never think of him
without the highest reverence.

John Calvin
16th century French Reformer, pastor, and theologian

For from the rising of the sun
to its setting my name will be
great among the nations, and in
every place incense will be offered
to my name, and a pure offering. For
my name will be great among the
nations, says the LORD of hosts.
Malachi 1:11

GOD SUMMONS US BY HIS GRACE

We respond to God's call to hallow his name by his grace

Psalms 113

Leader: Praise the LORD! Praise, O servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD!

People: Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and forevermore! From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the LORD is to be praised!

Leader: The LORD is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens!

People: Who is like the LORD our God, who is seated on high, who looks far down on the heavens and the earth?

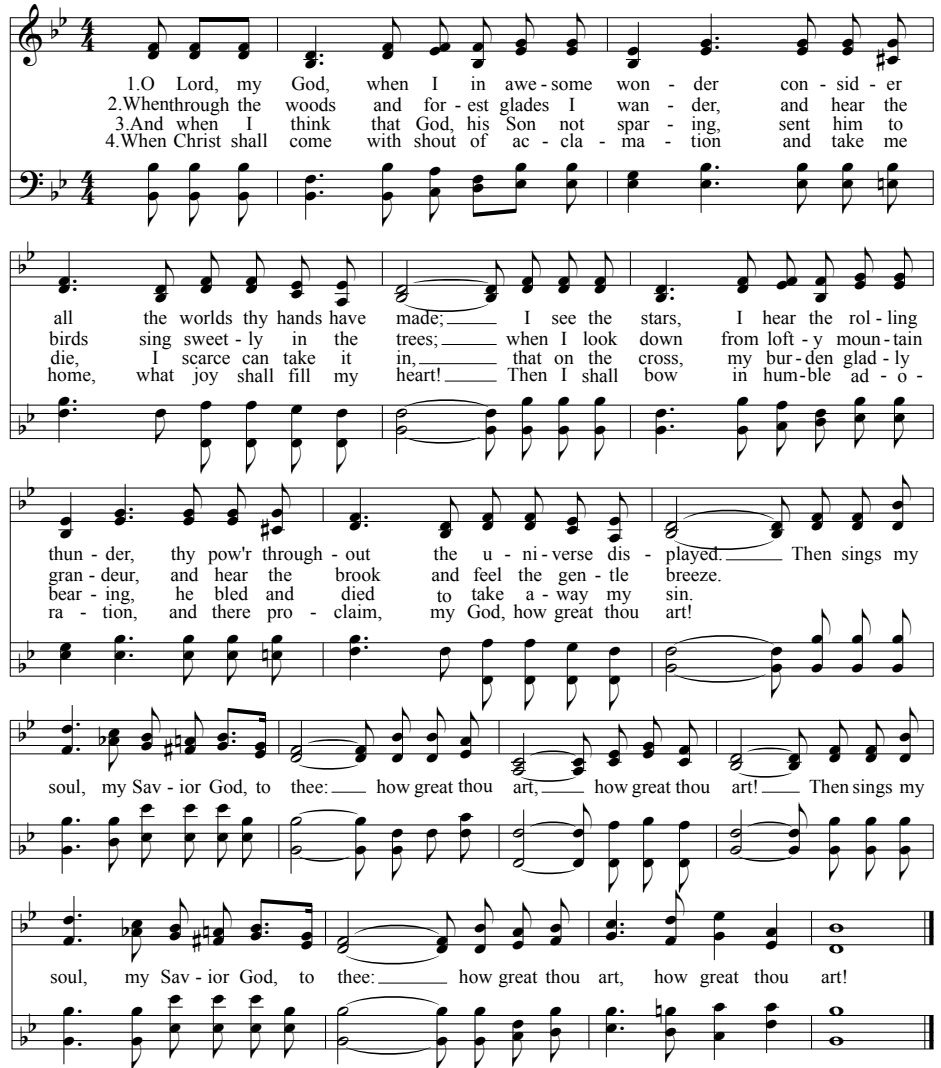
1 Timothy 6

Leader: He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion.

People: To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever.

We declare that our God is hallowed in our hearts

"How Great Thou Art"



1. O Lord, my God, when I in awe - some won - der con - sid - er
 2. When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, and hear the
 3. And when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, sent him to
 4. When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion and take me

all the worlds thy hands have made; I see the stars, I hear the rol - ling
 birds sing sweet - ly in the trees; when I look down from loft - y moun - tain
 die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross, my bur - den glad - ly
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -

thun - der, thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played. Then sings my
 gran - deur, and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze.
 bear - ing, he bled and died to take a - way my sin,
 ra - tion, and there pro - claim, my God, how great thou art!

soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee: how great thou art, how great thou art! Then sings my

soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee: how great thou art, how great thou art!

Great and
 marvelous are
 Your works, Lord
 God Almighty!
 Just and true are
 Your ways, O King
 of the saints!
 Revelation 15

"To God Be the Glory"

1. To God be the glo - ry, great things he has done! So loved he the
 2. O per - fect re - demp - tion, the pur - chase of blood! To ev' - ry be -
 3. Great things he has taught us, great things he has done, and great our re -

6 world that he gave us his Son, who yield - ed his life an a - tone - ment for
 liev - er the prom - ise of God; the vil - est of - fend - er who tru - ly be -
 joy - ing through Je - sus the Son; but pur - er and high - er and great - er will

12 sin. and o - pened the life - gate that we may go in. Praise the
 lieves, that mo - ment from Je - sus for - give - ness re - ceives.
 be our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

17 Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord! Praise the

22 Lord! Let the peo - ple re - joice! O come to the Fa - ther through Je - sus the

28 Son, and give him the glo - ry, great things he has done!

For from him and
 through him and
 to him are all
 things. To him be
 glory forever.

Amen.
 Romans 11

GOD SANCTIFIES US BY HIS GRACE

Romans 1

God proclaims that we have not always set him apart as he deserves

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth...For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

Isaiah 55

"Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

We confess that we are utterly incapable without his grace "I Need Thee Every Hour"

1. I need thee ev-'ry hour, most gra-cious Lord; no
2. I need thee ev-'ry hour, in joy or pain: come

ten-der voice like thine can peace af-ford. I need thee ev-'ry hour,
quick-ly and a-bide, or life is vain. I need thee ev-'ry hour,

stay thou near-by; temp-ta-tions lose their pow'r when thou art nigh.
teach me thy will, and thy rich prom-is-es in me ful-fill.

I need thee, O I need thee, O I need thee ev-'ry hour; I

need you, Lord, O bless me now; my Sav-ior, I come to thee.

3. I need thee ev-'ry hour, most ho-ly One; O

make me thine in-deed, thou bless-ed Son. I need thee, O I need thee,

O I need thee ev-'ry hour; I need you, Lord, O

bless me now; my Sav-ior, I come to thee. I need thee ev-'ry hour.

What are we praying for when we ask that His name become holy? Is it not holy already! Of course it is holy, but in our use of it his name is not kept holy..
Martin Luther

God assures us that he will hallow his name in our lives

Ezekiel 36

I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

We rest in gracious work of Christ

"I Will Glory in My Redeemer"

1 I will glo - ry in my Re - deem - er, whose price - less blood has ran - somed
2 I will glo - ry in my Re - deem - er; my life he bought, my love he
3 I will glo - ry in my Re - deem - er, who car - ries me on ea - gle's

5 me. Mine was the sin that drove the bit - ter nails and hung him on that judge - ment
6 owns. I have no long - ings for a - no - ther; I'm sat - is - fied in him a -
7 wings. He crowns my life with lov - ing - kind - ness; his tri - umph song I'll ev - er

9 tree. I will glo - ry in my Re - deem - er, who crushed the pow'r of sin and
10 lone. I will glo - ry in my Re - deem - er, his faith - ful - ness my stand - ing
11 sing. I will glo - ry in my Re - deem - er, who waits for me at gates of

13 death. My on - ly Sav - ior be - fore the ho - ly Judge: the Lamb who is my right - eous
14 place. Though foes are might - y and rush up - on me, my feet are firm, held by his
15 gold. And when he calls me, it will be par - a - dise: his face for - ev - er to be -

17 ness, the Lamb who is my right - eous - ness.
18 grace, my feet are firm, held by his grace.
19 hold, his face for - ev - er to be - hold. last time, repeat from *

redemption
| ri'dempSHən |

the action of
gaining or regaining
possession of
(something) in
exchange for
payment; buying
back
It is God who buys
back his people
from the wages of
their sin (death)
through paying
those wages in the
death of Christ.

GOD SPEAKS WITH US BY HIS GRACE

Matthew 6:5-15

[5] “And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. [6] But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

[7] “And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. [8] Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. [9] Pray then like this:

**“Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.**

[10] Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

[11] Give us this day our daily bread,

[12] and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.

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

[14] For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, [15] but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Intro:

1) **Pray that God would cause you and others to know Him**

- 2) **Pray that God would cause you and others to treasure Him**
- 3) **Pray that God would cause you and others to glorify Him**

We respond to God's Word, lifting up his name

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

1. All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pro - strate fall; bring
 2. Ye cho - sen seed of Is - rael's race, ye ran - somed from the fall; hail
 3. Let ev - 'ry kind - red, ev - 'ry tribe on this ter - res - trial ball, to
 4. O that with yon - der sa - cred throng we at his feet may fall; we'll

6
 forth the roy - al di - a - dem, and crown him Lord of all; bring
 him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all; hail
 him all maj - es - ty a - scribe, and crown him Lord of all; to
 join the ev - er - last - ing song, and crown him Lord of all; we'll

11
 forth the roy - al di - a - dem, and crown him Lord of all.
 him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.
 him all ma - jes - ty a - scribe, and crown him Lord of all.
 join the ev - er - last - ing song, and crown him Lord of all.

Therefore God has
 highly exalted him
 and bestowed on
 him the name that
 is above every
 name, so that at
 the name of Jesus
 every knee should
 bow, in heaven
 and on earth and
 under the earth,
 and every tongue
 confess that Jesus
 Christ is Lord, to
 the glory of God
 the Father.
 Philippians 2

GOD STRENGTHENS US BY HIS GRACE

We celebrate the Lord's supper, being strengthened by his grace to glorify him

We celebrate God's free grace to us in Jesus Christ by observing the Lord's Supper each Sunday. We invite to the Lord's Table all who are baptized followers of Jesus Christ under the authority of Christ and his body, the Church. By eating the bread and drinking the cup, you are acknowledging that you are a sinner, without hope except in the sovereign mercy of God, and that you are trusting in Jesus Christ alone for your salvation. If you have any doubts about your participation, please speak to one of the elders after the service.

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

1. When I sur - vey the won - drous cross
2. For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast,
3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
4. Were the whole realm of na - ture mine,

5
on which the Prince of glo - ry died,
save in the death of Christ my God:
sor - row and love flow min - gled down:
that were a pres - ent far too small;

9
my rich - est gain I count but loss,
all the vain things that charm me most,
did e'er such love and sor - row meet,
love so a - maz - ing, so di - vine,

13
and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

[T]he Lord's Supper doesn't merely remind us of a gift. It is a gift. And that gift is nothing less than Christ himself.
Rankin Wilbourne

Westminster
Shorter Catechism
Questions 98-99

We profess that God's gift of prayer is an ordinary means of grace for our good and his glory

Leader: What is prayer?

People: Prayer is an offering up of our desires unto God, for things agreeable to his will, in the name of Christ, with confession of our sins, and thankful acknowledgment of his mercies.

Leader: What rule has God given for our direction in prayer?

People: The whole Word of God is of use to direct us in prayer; but the special rule of direction is that form of prayer which Christ taught his disciples, commonly called the Lord's Prayer.

Leader: How is the Lord's Prayer to be used?

People: The Lord's Prayer is not only for direction, as a pattern, according to which we are to make other prayers; but may also be used as a prayer, so that it be done with understanding, faith, reverence, and other graces necessary to the right performance of the duty of prayer.

Westminster
Larger Catechism
Question 187

Praying the Lord's Prayer, unlike meditation on a passage of Scripture, is actual prayer. It is address to God—with the authority of Jesus' own words. It brings boldness and comfort and, of course, warms up the heart to slide right into the most passionate prayer for our most urgent concerns.
Timothy Keller

In prayer, we come to our Father, desiring to glorify his name with our lives

*During this time we live in faith, trusting in the power of his grace,
placing our lives and our church in his hands.
We ask that he would work in us and through us for his glory.*

GOD SENDS US BY HIS GRACE

We depart, knowing that it is Christ in us, which glorifies the father

"Yet Not I, But Through Christ in Me"

What gift of grace is Je - sus my re - dee - mer There is no
The night is dark but I am not for - sak - en For by my
No fate I dread, I know I am for - giv - en The fu - ture
With ev - ery breath I long to fol - low Je - sus For he has

3
more for hea - ven now to give He is my joy, my righ - teous - ness, and
side, the Sav - ior he will stay I la - bor on in weak - ness and re -
sure, the price it has been paid For Je - sus bled and suf - fered for my
said that he will bring me home And day by day I know he will re -

6
free - dom My stead - fast love, my deep and bound - less
- joic - ing For in my need, his pow - er is dis -
par - don And he was raised to ov - er - throw the
- new me Un - til I stand with joy be - fore the

8
peace. To this I hold, my hope is on - ly Je - sus For my
- played. To this I hold, my Shep - herd will de - fend me Through the
grave. To this I hold, my sin has been de - fea - ted Je - sus
throne. To this I hold, my hope is on - ly Je - sus All the

11
life is who - lly bound to his. Oh how strange and di - vine, I can
deep - est val - ley he will lead Oh the night has been won, and I
now and ev - er is my plea Oh the chains are re - leased, I can
glo - ry ev - er - more to him When the race is com - plete, still my

14
sing: all is mine! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.
shall o - ver - come! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.
sing: I am free! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.
lips shall re - peat: Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

The Christian's life in all its aspects—intellectual and ethical, devotional and relational, upsurging in worship and outgoing in witness—is supernatural; only the Spirit can initiate and sustain it.

God declares that he will glorify his name in us by his grace

Leader: Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.

People: Amen

Please stay and join us for a time of enjoying each other's company.

Hebrews 13



Welcome to Free Grace

We are a broken church full of broken people. We know we need God's free grace. Some of us have accepted this grace, some are exploring what it's all about. All of us are still trying to understand it. We are a church that seeks to proclaim this free grace of God with both our words and our lives. Not satisfied with simply talking about it, we want to live it out. We invite you to come, explore, and live God's free grace with us.



Our Connections

Free Grace is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), a family of churches that seeks to be faithful to the Scriptures, true to the Reformed faith, and obedient to the Great Commission of Jesus Christ.

Our Leadership

Free Grace is lead by her elders, men called by God and set apart by the church to care and lead her as individual members, families, and as a whole. Our elders are:



Brian Cosgrove
Rev. Adam Lee
Ken Morris
Ben Van Dyke

Pastor in Residence:
Rev. Dr. Per Almquist

Credits

Scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright ©2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Artwork used by permission. Cover art: Man Raising Arms to Worship God. Adobe #886064402

All songs are used by permission. All rights are reserved by the copyright holders. All are used according to CCLI license #11100390.

Beth Almquist, *piano*; Abigail Lee, *violin*; Grace Lee, *viola*; Shannon VanDyke, *voice*

"How Great Thou Art" ©1953 Manna Music, Inc. International. Words: Stuart K. Hine, 1949 alt. Music: Swedish folk melody.

"To God Be the Glory" Public Domain. Words: Fanny Crosby, 1875. Music: William Doane, 1875.

"I Need Thee Every Hour" ©1998 Kevin Twit Music. Words: Annie Hawks, 1872; refrain Robert Lowry, 1872. Music: Kevin Twit, 1998.

"I Will Glory in My Redeemer" ©2000 Sovereign Grace Worship. Words and Music: Steve and Vikki Cook, 2000.

"All Hail the Power of Jesus Name" Public Domain. Words: Edward Perronet, 1779 and John Rippon, 1787 (verses 3 and 4). Music: Oliver Holden, 1793.

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" Public Domain. Words: Isaac Watts, 1707, 1709. Music: Gregorian Chant, arr. by Lowell Mason, 1824.

"Yet Not I, But Through Christ in Me" ©2018 CityAlight Music. Words and Music: Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson, and Michael Farren.

Our Daily Worship

A through-the-week devotional



The following pages are provided for you with a desire to “lead you beside still waters.”

May they assist you in your walk with Christ through week, as you practice his presence, feed upon his word, and reflect upon how both impact your weekly life.

WHY MEMORIZE THE CATECHISM?

From time to time I am asked, "Why encourage memorizing the Catechism instead of Scripture?" The answer is simple: we are not choosing between them. We encourage both. One of the great strengths of the Catechism is that it teaches us to ask questions we might not think to ask on our own. Many Christians have memorized Bible verses, which is a wonderful thing. Yet it is possible to know Scripture without ever stopping to ask how those passages answer the practical and theological questions of the Christian life. The Catechism helps us make those connections.

For example, many Christians have heard the phrase, "sin is sin," and would assume that all sins are equal in every respect. Yet when the Catechism asks, "Are all transgressions of the law equally heinous?" the answer may surprise us. The beauty of that moment is that one who is working through the catechism should ask, '*Wait, what? Why?*' And then proceed to look up the Scripture references.

The Catechism is not a replacement for the Bible. Rather, it is a guide that helps us organize, understand, and apply the Bible's teaching to the whole of life. For that reason, every answer is supported by Scripture references.

As you work on memorizing this week's question and answer, take time to study the passages listed below and see how what we confess is derived from God's Word. **If you do not have a copy of the Catechism with Scripture proofs, please speak with an elder and we will gladly provide one.** It will be easier to have a copy because these verses will all be printed out in their entirety.

Gen. 1:1
Ps. 33:6, 9
Heb. 11:3
Genesis 1:31

SUNDAY

Scripture –Matthew 6:9

Reflection: When Jesus teaches us to pray, *“Hallowed be your name,”* He is teaching us to enter into agreement with God. Throughout Scripture, God declares His determination to make His name known. *“I will be exalted among the nations,”* He says. And again, *“the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.”*

That means the first request of the Lord's Prayer rests upon something wonderfully certain:

God is committed to the glory of His holy name. We can make this request with confidence that God will be pleased to make himself known, help us to treasure him, and enable us to glorify him.

Moses once asked, **“Please show me your glory.”** How would God respond to such a request? As you read today, notice how ready God is to answer—and pay particular attention to what He reveals when asked to show His glory.

Our Common Weakness: We do not desire God's glory to be known as much as God does. Our prayers and desires are easily consumed with lesser things.

Christ Connection: Jesus perfectly desired His Father's glory, and lived exclusively for it.

Exodus 33:18–34:8 What does Moses ask God to show him in v.18? According to v. 19, what does God promise to show in response?

In v5–7 What does God reveal about Himself when He proclaims His name? What does this teach you about God's glory?

How does Moses respond in 34:8? Why is it fitting response when God makes His glory known?

Prayer Heavenly Father, you are committed to the glory of your holy name. Cause us to desire your glory to be revealed as you do. Make yourself known to us and others, teach us to treasure you rightly, and use our lives so that your greatness comes increasingly into view. May your name be hallowed in us and throughout the earth. Amen.

<<<<<Catechism Corner>>>>>

Q. What is the work of Creation?

A. *The work of creation is, God's making all things of nothing, by the word of his power, in the space of six days, and all very good.*

Adults: Read the Q/A aloud three times. Do not try to memorize it yet. Simply listen for the main truth being taught.

Parents: Read it with your child. Ask if they have questions. Explore those together, and let their questions guide your study this week.

MONDAY

Scripture: Matthew 6:9

Reflection: Why must we ask God to cause us to “hallow” his name? The answer is humbling: there is something deeply wrong with us. Larger Catechism Q#190 says that we and all mankind are “*utterly unable and indisposed to honor God aright.*” In other words, left to ourselves, we cannot honor God rightly—and we do not naturally want to, because of our being born into sin.

That is why “*Hallowed be your name*” is not merely a declaration of praise. It is a request for grace. We are asking our Father to do in us what we cannot do for ourselves—to make us willing and able to honor Him rightly.

Few passages demonstrate the seriousness of this problem like the account of Nadab and Abihu. They were priests, set apart to serve God, yet they attempted to honor Him according to their own wisdom. As you read, may this account teach you of your need for God to answer the petition, “*Hallowed be your name.*”

Our Common Weakness: Even when we intend to honor God, our sinful hearts are prone to honor Him according to our own wisdom and smudge his reputation before the world.

Christ Connection: Jesus never failed to honor His Father, but perfectly glorified Him in every way His Father prescribed.

Leviticus 10:1–7 According to vv. 1–2, what did Nadab and Abihu do wrong?

What does this teach us about how we are to worship God? What connection does He make between His holiness and His glory?

N & A were priests, yet their actions obscured rather than displayed His holiness. How does their failure illustrate the danger of trying to honor God according to our own wisdom?

Prayer Heavenly Father, forgive us for the ways we have tried to honor You, yet through our sin, have smudged the window which others look through to see you. Forgive us for obscuring Your holiness through our thoughts, words, and deeds, and for trusting our own wisdom rather than Your Word. Clean what we have smudged, and by Your grace enable us to honor You rightly, so that others would see more clearly how glorious You truly are. Amen.

<<<<Catechism Corner>>>>

Q. What is the work of Creation?

A. The work of creation is, God’s making all things of nothing, by the word of his power,^z in the space of six days, and all very good.

Adults: Read the Q/A several times. Look up a couple Scripture proofs and meditate on it this week.

Parents: Explain one key word, then say the answer together.

TUESDAY

Scripture: Matthew 6:9

Reflection: If we are unable to honor God rightly on our own, where do we begin? We ask God to make Himself known. We cannot hallow a God we do not know, and we cannot discover what God is like by looking within ourselves or imagining what we think He ought to be like. **God must reveal Himself.**

This is part of what we are asking when we pray, “Hallowed be your name.” Father, teach us Your name. Show us Your character. Correct what we misunderstand about You. And do this not only for us, but for others who do not yet know You.

But where should we look if we really want to know God? John begins his Gospel by introducing us to Someone who has eternally been with the God—and who is Himself God. As you read, notice what John says this Person came into the world to do.

Our Common Weakness: We are prone to form our understanding of God from our own assumptions rather than receiving Him as He has revealed Himself.

Christ Connection: The invisible God has made Himself known in His Son.

John 1:1–18

According to vv. 1–5, what does John tell us about the Word? What do these descriptions reveal about His identity?

What happens to the Word in v. 14? What does John say became visible when He came to dwell among us?

Consider vv. 17–18. What does this teach you about where you should look when you pray, “Father, cause me to know You”?

Prayer Heavenly Father, we cannot know you unless you make yourself known. Keep us from shaping you according to our own imagination. Open our eyes to behold your glory in your Son, and make yourself known to those around us who do not yet know You. Cause us and others to know you as you truly are. Amen.

<<<<<Catechism Corner>>>>>

Q. What is the work of Creation?

A. The work of creation is, God’s making all things of nothing, by the word of his power, in the space of six days, and all very good.

Adults: Write the answer twice. Notice the commas and use them to break the answer into smaller parts. Work on one part at a time and bring each new part in as you are ready.

Parents: Write the answer with one word missing. Let your child fill it in. Repeat with different words.

WEDNESDAY

Scripture: Matthew 6:9

Reflection: What is God worth to you? We are constantly answering that question, even if we never say it aloud. We make choices about what deserves our time, what is worth sacrificing for, what we fear losing, and what we believe will make us happy. In doing so, we are constantly making appraisals.

When we pray, "*Hallowed be your name,*" we are asking God to correct our appraisal of him. We are asking that we would not merely know true things about God, but highly esteem him for who he truly is. And when God rises in our estimation, everything else begins to assume its proper value in comparison with him.

Paul once possessed many things he considered valuable. But after coming to know Christ, his entire appraisal changed. As you read, notice how his appraisal of various things changed.

Our Common Weakness: We overvalue lesser things and undervalue the surpassing worth of knowing Christ.

Christ Connection: In Christ, we encounter a treasure of such surpassing worth that everything else must be reappraised in comparison with him.

Philippians 3:4–11 What things does Paul list in vv. 4–6 that he once considered "gain"?

According to vv. 7–8, what happened to Paul's appraisal of those things? What does he now consider to be of "surpassing worth"?

Notice Paul's desire in vv. 8–11. What do these expressions reveal about how highly Paul treasures Christ? What things in your own life need to be reappraised in comparison with him?

Prayer Heavenly Father, our appraisal of you is always too low, and we often give lesser things a value they do not deserve. Open our eyes to the surpassing worth of knowing Christ. Cause us to treasure you above every earthly gain, and teach us to count everything according to its true worth in relationship to you. Amen.

<<<<Catechism Corner>>>>

Q. What is the work of Creation?

A. *The work of creation is, God's making all things of nothing, by the word of his power, in the space of six days, and all very good.*

Adults: Write the first letter of each word on paper. Use those letters as prompts and see how far you can get without looking at the answer.

Parents: Have your child draw a picture of one truth contained in the Q/A. Discuss it together, then recite the answer.

THURSDAY

Scripture – Matthew 6:9

Reflection: A telescope serves its purpose by bringing something than large, more clearly into view. When we pray, “Hallowed be your name,” we are asking that through our thoughts, words, and deeds, Christ would become increasingly visible rather than us. Think again about a priceless painting. Once its worth has been recognized, you don't hide it in the basement while putting your own picture in the place of honor. The treasure gets displayed. If Christ is the treasure, we want him occupying the place of honor in our lives, where others can see his worth.

But we cannot make Christ visible merely by trying harder. Instead, Jesus’s prayer in John 17 shows us the source of our hope. He perfectly glorified his Father—and then prayed for a people who would be united to him and participate in displaying his glory. As you read, notice how the glory Jesus displays extends through those who are united to him.

Our Common Weakness: Though created to bear God’s image and display his glory, our sin distorts that image and draws attention to ourselves rather than to him.

Christ Connection: Jesus perfectly glorified his Father, and now lives in those who are united to him, increasingly making his glory visible through their lives.

John 17:1–8, 20–26 According to vv. 1–8, how did Jesus glorify his Father during his earthly ministry? What did he accomplish, reveal, and give?

In vv. 20–23, how does Jesus describe the union between himself and his people? What does Jesus desire the world to see or know through them?

In vv. 20–26 he prays for those who will be united to him. What gives us hope that, despite our sin and weakness, our lives may yet display God’s glory?

Prayer Heavenly Father, we desire to hallow your name. Make Christ increasingly visible in us. Shape our thoughts, govern our words, and direct our deeds so that the way we live displays your worth. May our homes, our work, our relationships, and our worship point beyond ourselves to you. Make us faithful image-bearers, so that others may see your glory and treasure Christ with us. Amen.

<<<<<Catechism Corner>>>>>

Q. What is the work of Creation?

A. The work of creation is, God’s making all things of nothing, by the word of his power,^z in the space of six days, and all very good.

Adults: Try writing out the answer with no prompts. Go as far as you can. If you need to peek, go ahead. Then try again until it becomes easier.

Parents: Ask your child if they have questions about the answer. Say it three times together in a comfortable rhythm, then pray for God to help you understand this truth.

FRIDAY- CATECHISM PRACTICE AND REVIEW

Use today for strengthening what you have practiced throughout the week. Do not worry if you cannot remember the answer perfectly at first. Try to recall as much as you can, use the helps provided, then try again. Memory grows through repeated, prayerful practice. Parents, engage your children by asking them to “help” you remember.

Fill in the blanks:

What is the work of Creation?

A. *The ____ of creation is, God's _____ all things of nothing, by the _____ of his power in the space of _____ days, and all very _____.*

First-letter prompt:

T____ w_____ o____ c_____ i____, G_____ m_____ a____ t_____ o____
n_____, b____ t____ w_____ o____ h____ p_____, i____ t____ s_____ o____
s____ d_____, a____ a____ v____ g_____.

Write it from memory (attempt 1):

Write it from memory (attempt 2):

Look Back: Long-term memory grows through review. After practicing this week’s question, go back and review **Q#5 and Q#9** from previous weeks. Try to recite each answer from memory before looking. If you need help, read it once, then cover it and try again.

This Week In Focus:

Saturday, September 12

Men's Breakfast and Workday – 8:00am, at the Van Dyke's new fixer-upper in Durham (see one of the elders or Bill Clarke for the address)

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, September 8th

Officer Candidate Training Kicks Off – 7pm-9pm

Saturday, September 19

CARE Training–Dealing with Difficult Problems Kick-off – 8:00am-noon, at Redemption Hill Community Church

Sunday, September 20

Sunday Small Group Study Kick-off – “Your Walk With God is a Community Project” – 6-8pm weekly at the Pauley's

Saturday, September 26

Ladies Brunch/Planning Meeting – 9:00am, at Sarah Lee's home

Regular Rhythms of Grace

Sunday Small Group Study – “Your Walk With God is a Community Project” – 6-8pm weekly at the Pauley's (beginning September 20)

First Friday Fellowship – 5:45pm – Location to be announced each month

Second Sunday Discussion – 2nd Sunday, 15 minutes after worship ends – (Family-style conversations on a rotating topic.)

Second Saturday Men's Breakfast – 2nd Saturday, 8:00am, location to be announced each month

Praying for Prodigals – 3rd Sunday, 8:30am in the pastor's office

Don't Forget

- If you would like to begin **the discipleship journey of the Turning Table**, ask any elder and the material will be provided. Simply read the book and/or listen to the podcasts, schedule a time to meet and discuss over coffee/tea, and then keep moving through the journey. You can start anytime.
- If you do not know **the address of any event, or the contact information for any event**, please contact either Pastor Adam at adam.lee@freegrace.us or Linda at the email address below.
- If you would like to be **added to our church-family email** where you can keep in touch through the week, or if you would like to be **added to the church directory**, please email Linda at linda.morris@freegrace.us
- If you are a member of Free Grace and are not using the **church directory app**, you are missing out on a very useful tool. Please reach out to Linda to see how to download it to your phone.

broken people
bound together in Christ
for God's glory