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## *Devotion for September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021*

### **Matthew 6:1-15**

**Today's verses come from the sixth chapter of Matthew.** A large portion of this Scripture may be very familiar to many of you. This reading contains the text of the prayer our Lord taught us. Not only did Jesus teach us what to pray, but how to pray. It says in [verses four and six](#) that when we pray in secret, our Father will know. Prayer is a beautiful gift we are given. We are blessed with the assurance that every prayer we pray will be heard by our dear Heavenly Father.

Throughout this prayer we are shown how each and everything can be brought before God. Right to begin with, we acknowledge that even though we may be asking for specific things, at the end of it all we recognize that He is in control and His will shall be done. We ask for security in our daily provisions, confident that He will provide. We ask that He continue to forgive us, and give us the example and strength to forgive those around us. And we ask for Him to protect us from the work of the devil in our lives, that we might not be tempted to sin again.

I don't know about you, but oftentimes I find that I have been taking prayer for granted; I'm going through the motions so to speak. When we say, "I'll pray for you," it may often get lost in the shuffle of the daily chaos of life. My challenge to you is, when you say "I'm praying for you," to actually stop and pray right then. Even if it's in your own mind.

I pray that you might lead a healthy prayer life, knowing that your Heavenly Father truly hears each word you lift up to Him and cares about your every concern, big or small.

*God's blessings,*

*Marissa Kroenke, Deaconess Intern  
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