

## Why We Pray - Our Father in Heaven

**Our desire and choice to commune with our Father is what we call prayer- inviting and involving Him in our lives.** *Genesis 1:26a-27; Genesis 2:7; Genesis 2:8-9a; Genesis 1:28-31a; James 1:17-18; John 1:18; Matthew 19:14; John 1:12-13; Jeremiah 31:3b*

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**1. We need our Father's value and approval- His wholeness makes us whole.** *Romans 8:15-16; Matthew 10:29-31; Zephaniah 3:17; Romans 8:31b-33*

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**2. We need our Father's understanding, grace and help.** *Hebrews 4:15-16*

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**3. We need our Father's wisdom.** *James 1:5-8*

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**4. We need our Father's strength in carrying life's burdens.** *1 Peter 5:7; Matthew 11:28*

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**5. We need our Father's loving discipline.**

*Proverbs 3:11-12; Romans 12:2*

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**What is it that keeps us from enjoying a daddy/child relationship with God?** *Ephesians 1:4-5*

- 1. Pride**
- 2. Sin**
- 3. Broken trust**

**Next week's reading guide:**

Psalm 83:18, Psalm 68:4-6, Exodus 6:1-3, Is.12:2  
Genesis 22:1-18, John 4:21-26  
Exodus 3:1-15, John 6:28-58  
Exodus 15, John 8:12  
Exodus 17, John 10:6-18  
Judges 6, John 11:17-27  
Jeremiah 23:1-6, John 13:18-20, John 14:6-11

**Discussion Questions:**

1. Are you aware of wanting to be in closer relationship with your Heavenly Father? Do you believe you've become more whole because of spending time with your Father? Discuss.
2. Is there a situation in your life or business that you need God's wisdom for? Share.
3. Are you carrying a burden you need Jesus to help you carry? What do you need to give to him today?
4. In what area in your life that God has disciplined you? Can you share about it? Is there an area in your life that God now is disciplining you? Share.