



# BIBLE

STUDENT BOOK

▶ **8th Grade | Unit 1**

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# BIBLE 801

## Prayer

INTRODUCTION | **3**

### **1. CHRIST'S MODEL PRAYER** **5**

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THE PARALLEL TEXTS | **6**

THE ORGANIZATION OF THE LORD'S PRAYER | **6**

THE BENEFITS OF THE MODEL PRAYER | **13**

THE PURPOSE OF CHRIST'S MODEL PRAYER | **14**

SELF TEST 1 | **17**

### **2. CHRIST'S TEACHING ON PRAYER** **19**

---

THE EARLY HISTORY OF PRAYER | **20**

THE RESPONSE TO PRAYERS | **21**

THE REQUEST IN PRAYER | **27**

SELF TEST 2 | **37**



**LIFEPAC Test is located in the center of the booklet.** Please remove before starting the unit.

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# Prayer

## Introduction

Prayer has been a primary means by which men, created in the image of God, have shown their attitude toward Him; and from the earliest times it has been a vital part of the public worship of God. Through studying this LIFEPAAC®, you will learn the purpose of the Lord's Prayer. You will study the Lord's Prayer and its arrangement. You will also discover how it can guide you today in your personal prayer. Your study of prayer will reveal certain requisites of prayer and the essential elements of prayer.

To gain a proper understanding of prayer, you will learn some of the essential facts about the history of prayer. Prayer occupied an important place in the life and the teachings of Jesus. Jesus was emphatically a man of prayer, praying frequently in private and in public. Jesus often taught His disciples about prayer, cautioning them against errors in prayer and encouraging them to pray. Prayer is a vital part of the Christian's communication to the heavenly Father, and this study will help you enter into a deeper and fuller prayer life.

## Objectives

**Read these objectives.** The objectives tell you what you will be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFEPAAC. When you have finished this LIFEPAAC, you should be able to:

1. Explain the purpose of the Lord's Prayer.
2. List an arrangement of the Lord's Prayer.
3. Specify certain requisites of prayer.
4. List essential elements of prayer.
5. List a few important facts about the history of prayer.

# 1. CHRIST'S MODEL PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer is found twice in the New Testament. In Matthew's account the prayer is given as a part of the Sermon on the Mount and in contrast to the prayers of the hypocrites and the heathens. Luke introduced the prayer after Christ's Galilean Ministry. The Lord's

Prayer is our model prayer, and it was given to us for a lesson and a guide. In this section you will study the contents of the model prayer and its purpose. You will learn how the elements of the Lord's Prayer should affect your prayer life.

## SECTION OBJECTIVES

**Review these objectives.** When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. Explain the purpose of the Lord's Prayer.
2. List the arrangement of the Lord's Prayer.
  - 2.1 Divine part.
  - 2.2 Ethical and social part.

## VOCABULARY

**Study these words to enhance your learning success in this section.**

**atonement** (u tō n' munt). Reconciling of God and man by the death of Jesus Christ.

**conditional** (kun dish' un ul). Depending upon something else.

**confidence** (kon' fu duns). A firm belief or trust.

**discourse** (dis' kōrs). A long written or spoken discussion of some subject.

**ethical** (eth' u kul). Conforming to accepted standards of conduct.

**hypocritical** (hip' u krit' u kul). Like a hypocrite; not sincere.

**petition** (pu tish' un). An earnest request.

**pinnacle** (pin' u kul). A high peak or point of rock.

**solicitation** (su lis' u tā shun). An urging to do wrong; temptation; enticement.

**sovereignty** (sov' run tē). Supreme power or authority; supremacy.

**supplication** (sup' lu kā' shun). A humble and earnest prayer.

**Note:** These words appear in boldface print the first time they are used in this LIFEPAK. If you are unsure of the meaning when you are reading, study the definitions given in this LIFEPAK.

**Pronunciation Key:** hat, āge, cāre, fār; let, ēqual, tērm; it, īce; hot, ōpen, ōrder; oil; out; cup, pūt, rüle; child; long; thin; /ʃh/ for then; /zh/ for measure; /u/ represents /a/ in about, /e/ in taken, /i/ in pencil, /o/ in lemon, and /u/ in circus.

## THE PARALLEL TEXTS

The text of the Lord's Prayer is given in Matthew chapter 6:9–13. It was part of the Sermon on the Mount, which Jesus preached to a large group of people on the north shore of Lake Gennesaret. The version recorded in Luke

### Read Luke 11:2–4.



11:2–4 is shorter and is incorporated in a general **discourse** that Jesus gave His disciples on prayer as recorded in Luke 11:1–13. Most people use Matthew's version of the Lord's Prayer as it is recorded in the inspired Word of God.



### Complete these statements.

- 1.1 The Lord's Prayer was part of Jesus' Sermon on the \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.2 The Lord's Prayer was recorded by a. \_\_\_\_\_ and  
b. \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.3 The text of the Lord's Prayer is given in Matthew chapter \_\_\_\_\_ :  
verses \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.4 Luke's version of the Lord's Prayer is recorded in chapter \_\_\_\_\_ :  
verses \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.5 The Lord's Prayer is actually our \_\_\_\_\_ .

## THE ORGANIZATION OF THE LORD'S PRAYER

An important feature of the Lord's Prayer is the organization. The prayer consists of an invocation, seven **petitions**, and a conclusion.

**Invocation.** "...Our Father which art in heaven..." In the first part of the prayer, the thought is directed toward the fatherly character of God. God is our heavenly Father. We are his earthly children. In both Scriptural references the Lord's Prayer follows a discourse or teaching on prayer by Jesus to His disciples. The early church used the word *Father* as the common address for God.

The Lord's Prayer begins with an address to the heavenly Father. Jesus said (Matthew 6:9), "After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father

### Read Matthew 6:9–13.



which art in heaven..." Jesus instructs us to direct our prayers toward a personal, objective, and living God. Jesus did not open this prayer only for the disciples' benefit, but also for our own personal benefit today. Jesus referred to the evident fact that God is our Father and that He dwells in heaven. The fact that Jesus called God "Father" should direct us to do the same in our lives. Jesus spent hour after hour in prayer to the Father, and He pointed to the fact that God is also our Father. When we pray, we should pray to the Father in heaven, not to someone here on earth. God desires that we give Him our attention and praise in each of our lives.

**Complete these statements.**

- 1.6 The Lord's Prayer consists of an a. \_\_\_\_\_, seven  
b. \_\_\_\_\_, and a c. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.7 The early church used the word a. \_\_\_\_\_ as the common  
b. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.8 We are directed to give our attention to \_\_\_\_\_, not to man.

**The first petition.** (Matthew 6:9) "...Hallowed be thy name." Jesus continued His prayer with the words *hallowed be thy name*. These words refer back to the giving of the covenant name of God to Moses in Exodus 3:13–14. The name of God is *I AM*, and He instructed Moses to use it in a hallowed, sacred manner just as we are to do today. Exodus 20:7 tells us, "Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain." Jesus recognized that the Father's name was hallowed and sacred just as the commandment was given to the children of Israel to use the name of God in a reverent manner. His name in the Bible is the characteristic revelation of Himself to men, women, and

young people everywhere. All the perfections and attributes that He has disclosed in His covenant and His working in history are summarized in the knowledge of His name. To defile or deface, subvert or dishonor the divine name of God is to reject the **sovereignty** of God.

Appeals and exhortations for the "blessing of the name" were commonplace in Jewish prayers of the time. The hallowing or sanctifying of the name implies no great supernatural practice, but simply it refers to the recognition of God's sovereign presence in every area of life. The petition places no limit on the time or space in which God's name is to be kept holy: the universality of the prayer is both immediate and all-encompassing.

**Complete these statements**

- 1.9 The name of God is \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.10 The verse that instructs us not to take the name of the Lord in vain is \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

**Answer these questions.**

- 1.11 Who was God speaking to when He used His name *I AM*? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.12 Why should we keep the name of God hallowed? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

**The second petition.** (Matthew 6:10) “Thy kingdom come....” The divine part of the Lord’s Prayer begins by asking that God’s kingdom come to earth. Although the kingdom was present when the King, Jesus, was there, a fuller form of the kingdom is to come in the future. When the Lord Jesus returns, He will raise and judge the dead and establish His reign on earth.

The Biblical concept of the kingdom of God is important and exciting. Jesus was the King of the Jews, but He can also be our King today. Shortly after Christ gave up His life upon the Cross, making an **atonement** for sin, the spiritual kingdom of God established its rule in the hearts of men, women, boys, and girls everywhere. The Lord Jesus knew of the time when the Holy Spirit would live and rule in the hearts of born-again individuals.



**Answer these questions.**

- 1.13 Why did Jesus Christ give His life on the Cross? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 1.14 Where does the spiritual kingdom of God establish its rule? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 1.15 What two things must happen for the kingdom of God to abide in an individual’s heart  
a. \_\_\_\_\_  
and b. \_\_\_\_\_

**The third petition.** (Matthew 6:10) “...Thy will be done....” The will of God should be the goal of the life of every Christian. So many people today are continually asking the question, “What is the will of God?” In God’s Word, John 6:39, we are clearly told one definite aspect of God’s will for each of us: “And this is the Father’s will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.”

Again in John 6:40 Jesus stated in specific terms God’s will toward every person:

*And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day. The will of God is revealed only in the inspired Scriptures. God speaks to us through His Word each day, and if we listen to His Word, we can*



| Praying Hands

*know His will for our lives. The will of God will be accomplished in the lives of individuals who sincerely desire to please Him and to serve Him.*

**The fourth petition.** (Matthew 6:10) "...in earth, as it is in heaven..." This petition is a continuation and extension of the third request and details the cases in which God's Word and will are active today. God is the Sovereign Ruler, and where God rules are joy, peace, and love. To know God's will, we must know God as the Sovereign Ruler of our lives.

God's will should be our daily prayer. When we seek the Lord's will and accept His will, we will please Him. When the will of God exists in our lives, the fruit of the Spirit will abide. (Galatians 5:21)

If God's will abides in our lives the remainder of the Lord's Prayer becomes a real blessing.



### Complete these activities.

- 1.16** The will of God is revealed in the inspired \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.17** "...this is the will of Him that sent me, that every one which seeth the a. \_\_\_\_\_ , and b. \_\_\_\_\_ on Him, may have everlasting c. \_\_\_\_\_ ...."
- 1.18** God is the Sovereign \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.19** Where God is sovereign a. \_\_\_\_\_ , b. \_\_\_\_\_ , and c. \_\_\_\_\_ are present.
- 1.20** To know God's will, we must know God as the a. \_\_\_\_\_ of our b. \_\_\_\_\_ .

**The fifth petition.** (Matthew 6:11) "Give us this day our daily bread." In the remainder of the Lord's Prayer, Jesus prays for daily benefits. Jesus teaches us to relieve anxiety about material matters and to rest in God's provision alone. Matthew 6:19–34 teaches us what to trust God for in our daily lives.

In verses 19–21 we are instructed to think only of our needs today. Jesus instructs us:

*Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:*

*But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:*

*For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.*

We should pray and believe that God will daily supply all those things that we need. A common error of the Pharisees was the undue emphasis they put upon material wealth as evidence of God's approval for their lives.

Jesus warns us to take thought only for today. He promises that He will supply what we need. The child of God should store up treasures in heaven by righteous living.

We are told to have faith and trust God for each day because God loves His children. Let us look at the words of Jesus concerning our faith in God. Matthew 6:25–34 shows us that those without wealth may fall victim to faithless worry. Jesus speaks to us in verse 25:

*Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?*

Since life itself and the body were provided by the Lord, shall we not trust Him to provide that which is less important in our lives? Since God provides sustenance for the birds that have no ability to sow, reap, and store, how much more can men, who have been provided with these abilities, trust their heavenly Father? Study Jesus' words in verses 26 and 27:

*Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?*

*Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?*

Food is essential to growth. Yet even here God controls. Just as God controls our growth, He also supplies the food necessary to keep us strong and healthy for His glory. God not only supplies food for us, but He will also supply raiment for our bodies. Jesus asks us a very important question in Matthew 6:28–30.

*And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:*

*And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.*

*Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and tomorrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?*

Why should we worry about tomorrow when simple faith in God brings all that we need in our lives today. Jesus asked the disciples why their faith was little. This expression, "...O ye of little faith..." is used four times in Matthew



| "Freedom From Want"

and once in Luke. We are encouraged to grow in faith. Jesus desires that we have faith in Him, that we trust Him for all things, both small and great.

Finally, Jesus instructs us (Matthew 6:31–34):

*Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?*

*(For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.*

*But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.*

*Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.*

We must continue seeking God by concentrating upon the spiritual values of life and putting our full **confidence** in God Who knows our needs and will supply all our needs.

**Answer these questions.**

**1.21** What two things will happen to our treasures here on earth?

- a. \_\_\_\_\_  
b. \_\_\_\_\_

**1.22** What was a common error of the Pharisees? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**1.23** How can we store up treasures in heaven? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Complete this activity.**

**1.24** List two passages of Scripture concerning God's supplying our needs.

- a. \_\_\_\_\_  
b. \_\_\_\_\_

**The sixth petition.** (Matthew 6:12) "And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors." Jesus told us to pray for forgiveness from the sins we have committed. We have all sinned, making it necessary to pray for forgiveness. Sin brings disappointment and heartaches to our lives. The debt of sin is only lifted when we ask God to forgive us our sins. God is merciful and just to forgive us our sins or wrongs that we have done. God will forgive each of us our sins.

Just as God forgives our sins, we need to forgive others for the wrong they do to us. If we expect to be forgiven, we need to be able also to forgive.

Forgiveness of sin, whether under Mosaic Law or in the church, is always by God's grace and is based on Christ's atonement. When a believer confesses his sin and asks God's forgiveness while withholding forgiveness from someone, he is not only wrong but also **hypocritical**. Possessing [maintaining] a forgiving spirit is made easier for Christians when they consider how much God has already forgiven (Ephesians

4:32). An unforgiving spirit is sin and should be confessed.

**The seventh petition.** (Matthew 6:13) "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil..." Temptation does not necessarily mean **solicitation** of evil, for God never tempts in that sense. James 1:13 and 14 says, "Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed."

Jesus prayed that we not be led into temptation, and we should pray the same prayer today. Some say that man cannot overcome temptation. We find in Mark 1:12-13, Luke 4:1-13, and Matthew 4:1-11 the story of Jesus Christ being led into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. The various tests of temptation were directed against the human nature of Jesus, and He resisted just as we must do. As children of God we can overcome temptation

## SELF TEST 1

**Match these items** (each answer, 2 points).

- |       |                    |    |                                               |
|-------|--------------------|----|-----------------------------------------------|
| 1.01  | _____ solicitation | a. | supreme power or authority; supremacy         |
| 1.02  | _____ petition     | b. | like a hypocrite; insincere                   |
| 1.03  | _____ atonement    | c. | a firm belief or trust                        |
| 1.04  | _____ sovereignty  | d. | moral; conforming to a code of conduct        |
| 1.05  | _____ hypocritical | e. | cover over sin                                |
| 1.06  | _____ confidence   | f. | a humble prayer                               |
| 1.07  | _____ pinnacle     | g. | a long written or spoken discussion           |
| 1.08  | _____ ethical      | h. | earnest request                               |
| 1.09  | _____ supplication | i. | a high peak or point of a rock                |
| 1.010 | _____ discourse    | j. | an urging to do wrong; temptation; enticement |

**Complete these statements** (each answer, 4 points).

- 1.011 The Lord's Prayer was given as a a. \_\_\_\_\_ and a b. \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.012 The Lord's Prayer has both a a. \_\_\_\_\_ nature and an b. \_\_\_\_\_ nature.
- 1.013 The Lord's Prayer cycle reveals that we must first a. \_\_\_\_\_ before we can expect to b. \_\_\_\_\_ from God.
- 1.014 The Lord's Prayer consists of \_\_\_\_\_ petitions.
- 1.015 The model of prayer is recorded in a. \_\_\_\_\_ and b. \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 1.016 In prayer praising God is called a. \_\_\_\_\_ , while asking for our needs is known as our b. \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Write the correct letter and word on the blank** (each answer, 3 points).

- 1.017 A purpose of the Lord's Prayer is \_\_\_\_\_ .  
 a. ritual                      b. directional                      c. ethical                      d. social
- 1.018 A humble and earnest request of prayer is called a \_\_\_\_\_ .  
 a. petition                      b. supplication                      c. conditional                      d. misconception.
- 1.019 The moral aspects of prayer are called the \_\_\_\_\_ aspects.  
 a. ethical                      b. cause                      c. effects                      d. cycle
- 1.020 Prayer should include a request for our \_\_\_\_\_ .  
 a. needs                      b. desires                      c. rights                      d. expectations
- 1.021 Two Scriptures about prayer are a. \_\_\_\_\_ and b. \_\_\_\_\_ .  
 a. John 3:2                      b. James 4:2                      c. Philippians 4:19                      d. James 5:3
- 1.022 To be at an end of a thing means to \_\_\_\_\_ a thing.  
 a. petition                      b. build                      c. complete                      d. desire

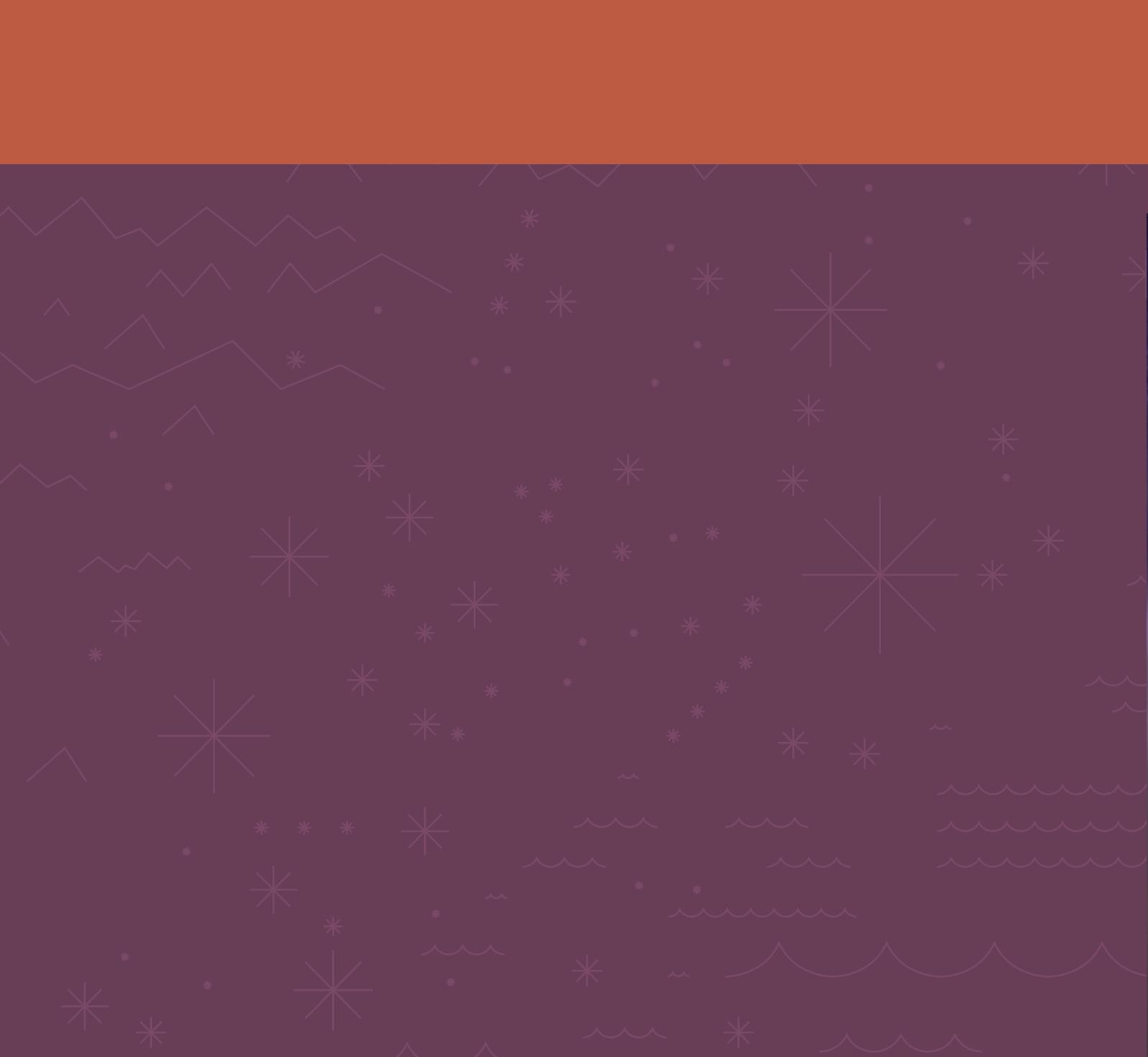
**Write in the missing word.** (each answer, 2 points)

- 1.023 "And this is the Father's \_\_\_\_\_ which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing...." (John 6:39)
- 1.024 "And this is the will of him that sent me, that everyone which seeth the  
 a. \_\_\_\_\_ , and b. \_\_\_\_\_ on him may have  
 c. \_\_\_\_\_ life...." (John 6:40)

**List the four requests for man from the Lord's Prayer** (each answer, 2 points).

- 1.025 \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.026 \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.027 \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.028 \_\_\_\_\_

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