

THE PRAYER OF CONNECTION
Praying for Inner Peace – Part 1
Matthew 6:9 (NIV)
CrossWord Christian Church
L. Kirk Sykes – Founder/Lead Pastor
March 1, 2026

“Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank Him for all He has done. Then you will experience God’s peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:6-7 (NLT)

The Key to Inner Peace: **“IS PRAYER”**

“This, then, is how you should pray: Our Father in heaven...” Matthew 6:9 (NIV)

God is **“OUR FATHER,”** Not a Force. (Not a Genie!)

WE CAN CONNECT WITH GOD BECAUSE ...

1. GOD IS A COMPASSIONATE FATHER.

“As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear (honor) Him...” Psalm 103:13 (NIV)

“Therefore do not worry saying, ‘What shall we eat? ... or what shall we wear...?’ ... Your heavenly Father knows you need all these things.” Matthew 6:31-32b (NKJV)

2. GOD IS A CAPABLE FATHER.

“For nothing will be impossible with God.” Luke 1:37 (ESV)

- GOD IS ABLE!

“Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,” Ephesians 3:20 (NKJV)

- The power that works in you! You are capable!
- But, you must put in the work, so God can work through you!

3. GOD IS A CONNECTED FATHER.

- God sent Jesus to make the connection!

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. If you had known Me, you would have known my Father also.”
John 14:6-7a (ESV)

“...We are all children of God through faith in Jesus Christ.” Galatians 3:26 (TLB)

The Lord’s Prayer Matthew 6:

(9) **“This, then, is how you should pray:**

“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 today 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 the evil one. (NIV)**