

# THE SACRAMENT OF LIVING

**EPIPHANY 2011**

I believe that suffering will be healed and made up for, that in the world's finale, at the moment of eternal harmony something so precious will come to pass that it will suffice our hearts for the comforting of all resentments, for the atonement of all crimes of humanity, for all the blood that they've shed, something so great that it will make it not just possible to forgive but to justify all that has happened.

**Fyodor Dostoevsky The Brothers Karamazov**

I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.

**Jesus**

# The Sacrament of Prayer

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The Sacrament of Living  
EPIPHANY 2011

## Luke 11 v 1-13

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<sup>1</sup> One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.”

<sup>2</sup> He said to them, “When you pray, say:

“Father,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come.

<sup>3</sup> Give us each day our daily bread.

<sup>4</sup> Forgive us our sins,

for we also forgive everyone who sins against us.

And lead us not into temptation.”

## Luke 11 v 1-13

<sup>5</sup> Then Jesus said to them, “Suppose you have a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; <sup>6</sup> a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have nothing to set before him.’ <sup>7</sup> And suppose the one inside answers, ‘Don’t bother me. The door is already locked, and my children and I are in bed. I can’t get up and give you anything.’ <sup>8</sup> I tell you, even though he will not get up and give you the bread because of friendship, yet because of your shameless audacity he will surely get up and give you as much as you need.

## Luke 11 v 1-13

9 “So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. <sup>10</sup> For everyone who asks receives; those who seek find; and to those who knock, the door will be opened.

<sup>11</sup> “Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? <sup>12</sup> Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? <sup>13</sup> If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

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Jesus is LORD

I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept his claim to be God. That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic — on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg — or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at him and kill him as a demon or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God, but let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.

C.S. Lewis

Identity

Change

Provision

Reconciliation

Security

A Cause

One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.

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Jesus had a compelling prayer life

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from the evil one  
(For yours in the Kingdom, the power, and the  
glory forever and ever Amen.)

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# Begin with God

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See Primary Purpose of Life

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# KINGDOM Orientation

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# SHAMELESS AUDACITY

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# EXPECTATION BASED ON PROMISE

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# SPECIFICS FOR CELEBRATION

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# BOLDLY AS FAMILY

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# IMPLICATIONS

- 12-1pm Wednesdays
- Pre-service prayer
- Resurrecting the “prayer meeting”
- 1 Hour a day