

must come first. And so the first part of the Lord's prayer gives us that which is vital to Christianity, about how prayer --and it is something of course which goes into our whole life, --are they self-centered, or are they God-centered? Are we first, or is Christ first in our prayers and in our...

Chapel 2. ( 1/4)

...starts in that wonderful way, our Father. After this manner therefore pray ye, our Father. What ~~de~~ right do we have to pray? We pray because God is our Father. What right does anyone have to pray who doesn't know the Lord Jesus Christ, he has no right because God is not ~~his~~ Father. Right here at the start we express the relationship that we have as members of the family of God because we are born again through the Lord Jesus. Our father. Right at the start we give praise to God for what ~~He~~ has done through Christ in ~~saving~~ and ~~giving~~ us an entrance to His kingdom, and right at the start we express the vital relationship that we should have in all our activities. And Luke ~~bring~~s out, after he hears the prayer, you can expect a father to give his son reward until he asks him to pray. An earthly father, in most cases, even if he's a rude and wicked man will have an interest ~~in~~ the welfare of his child. And we know that God who is our Father knows what things we have need of, even before we ask. What a thing that is to pray. We don't go to prayer to ~~Him~~ to inform God but we go to prayer in order to enter into communion with Him, in order to come on the basis of the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ and of our relationship to Him who is our Father. So he has taught us a ~~trave~~ndous lesson about prayer ~~in~~the way we start. Our Father which art in heaven. I like the more literal translation a little better. The Hebrew here is "Our Father which art in the heavens, hallowed be thy name." I don't think that God is way off somewhere at some distant spot we call heaven, which is so far away that we know we'll go there after we die, but is quite unrelated to earth. Our ~~F~~ather who fills all the heavens, the sky, the clouds, the stars, space, the most distant galaxy, wherever there is in the universe, there is God.