

ON BENDED KNEE series
Expectancy over expectations outline
January 24, 2021.
Mt 6:10-13

ON BENDED KNEE

How God Changes Our Focus and Focuses our Change

I. Jesus Prayed *"and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil"*

A. "and lead"

-By definition, followers of Jesus are those led by Him

B. "lead us"

-The same Father with Jesus and with one another

C. "not unto temptation, but deliver us from evil"

-Followers of Jesus ask God to lead them out of temptation and away from evil

BEFORE ANYTHING ELSE, WE FOLLOW FIRST

As we learn to be quickly and readily led by our Father in heaven, God does his work of transformation in our lives, from the inside out:

1. Centering us in His vision for our lives, rather than our own mere whims and desires
2. Teaching us to walk by faith not sight, as we learn to trust His word over our ideas
3. Cultivating a life of freedom and grace that attracts others and glorifies Him

II. The Temptations that Stifle Us

#1. The Temptation to be Sovereign

1. Defined by the desire to be in control
2. Its goal is to achieve predictability by means of safety and safety by means of trusting oneself more than anyone else, even God
3. This temptation's lie says: "Who can you really trust? You should be in control."
4. Its root sin: self-reliance

#2. The Temptation to be Powerful

1. Defined by the desire to be in charge
2. The goal is to find one's identity through a role, carrier, title, or accomplishment
3. This temptation's lie: "Who's in charge? You deserve to be in command."
4. Root sin: self-importance

#3. The Temptation to be Spectacular

1. Defined by the desire to be the center of attention.
2. The goal is to gain worth through the recognition and notoriety
3. This temptation's lie: "Who's being celebrated here? People ought be more grateful for you."
4. Root sin: self-arrogance

When we succumb to these temptations and those like them, we tend to come to God with EXPECTATIONS rather than with EXPECTANCY

- expectations of **growing** our own **empire**
- expectations of **protecting** our own **position**
- expectations of **building** our own **brand**

A LIFE OF EXPECTATION IS DOMINATED BY COLLECTING, PROTECTING, AND IMPRESSING
BUT GOD CALLS US, FREES US, and TRANSFORMS US

"In the morning, Lord, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait expectantly. " - Psalm 5:3

PRAYING WITH EXPECTATIONS IS ROOTED IN ENTITLEMENT
BUT PRAYING WITH EXPECTANCY IS GROUNDED IN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

III. The Change

The promise of our transformation has been professed through the doxology of the Lord's prayer for the past 2000 years:

"For yours is the kingdom, power, and glory, forever and ever, Amen."

A. For **YOURS** is the kingdom; not mine.

- God is sovereign, holy, trustworthy, we give Him full control

B. For **YOURS** in the power; not mine

- God has all the power, he is omnipotent

C. For **YOURS** is the glory; not mine

- God is worthy of all the praise and glory, no one else is

PRAYER DOESN'T CHANGE GOD'S MIND; IT CHANGES OUR HEARTS.

Our Father,

Would you use this prayer to change our focus

*from growing our own empire to building your kingdom,
from hungry for our own power to serving under your power
from chasing our own glory to living for your glory.*

Father, use this prayer to bring us a new focus through change:

*lead us to live with compassion
rather than competition with one another
lead us to live preparing the way
rather than protecting our assets
and Lord, lead us to live for your glory
rather than our own.*

In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen