

The PAPA Prayer: Part One

Luke 18:9-14

Aim: The aim of the sermon is to help people learn to develop a quality relationship with their Heavenly Father through focusing their attention on developing a *Relational* prayer life versus a *Petitionary* prayer life.

Four Stages of the PAPA Prayer

- There are four stages of the PAPA prayer that we will be discussing over a two week time period. These four stages will help us develop a quality relationship with the Lord through developing a healthy prayer life.

Stage #1 – P = Present Yourself to God Without Pretense

- **Hebrews 4:13** – Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.
- This main point examines two specific choices that we make as Christians in which we choose to present our REAL selves to God.
 - **Choice #1 - Be Who You Are**
 - This choice focuses our attention on presenting ourselves to God just as we are and not putting up a false front. This choice allows true healing to come about.
 - **Choice #2 – Enter the Red Dot**
 - This choice focuses our attention on getting a fix on our current location in our lives. It is simply choosing to take the time and get your bearings by tuning in to what is going on in your life so you can discover where God wants to take you from here.

Stage #2 – A = Attend to How You Are Thinking of God

- This main point examines two more choices that each Christian must make in order to focus their full attention on the God they are worshipping.
 - **Choice #1 – You Must Picture God**
 - This choice focuses our attention on answering this simple question: What picture of God comes to mind when you pray? Simply stated, how you picture the God you are praying to will effect the way you pray.
 - **Choice #2 – Picture God Correctly**
 - This choice focuses our attention on picturing the one and only God that created the world and put the moons and stars in their place, the God we are called to worship with entirety of heart, soul, and mind.
 - **Revelation 1:10-18** – This passage gives us the description of the God we are called to pray to and worship.

Memory Verse:

Psalm 46:10 – "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."