

A person wearing a colorful, patterned garment is blowing a long, curved horn. The background is a vibrant sunset with a bright sun on the left and silhouetted mountains in the distance. The text is overlaid in the center.

**LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION,
BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL:
THE PRESERVATION OF
SURRENDERED PEOPLE**

The Lord's Prayer (7)

9. Pray then like this: 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 this day 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 evil.

Matthew 6:9-13

- ▶ We are not simply **weak**. We are **dependent**.
- ▶ The Christian life is a journey of **increasing dependence** upon an ever-faithful Father.
- ▶ We are dependent upon His wisdom, His discernment, His foresight, His understanding, His guidance, His protection.
- ▶ This is a journey of **increasing** dependence upon an ever **faithful** Father.

The Humility of Knowing Our Need

Lead us.....

One of the true marks of spiritual maturity is not greater confidence in ourselves - it is greater confidence in God.

Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You.

Matthew 26:35

Then he began to invoke a curse on himself
and to swear, 'I do not know the man.'

Matthew 26:74

"Father... I know me. Therefore... lead me."

**Let anyone who thinks that he
stands take heed lest he fall.**

1 Corinthians 10:12

The Father Knows What I Cannot See

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and
lean not on your own understanding.

Proverbs 3:5

8. My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither
are your ways My ways.
9. For as the Heavens are higher than the earth,
so are My ways higher than your ways and
My thoughts than your thoughts.

Isaiah 55:8-9

The LORD is my Shepherd: Psalm 23:1

The sheep are safe not because they understand the terrain, but because they **stay close to the Shepherd.**

The safest place in the Christian life isn't merely **far away from temptation.**

It is **near the Father.**

The Father is forming His children

...to be conformed to the image of His Son.

Romans 8:29

James 1:2-4 reminds us that trials, when rightly handled, produce maturity and completeness in us.

The Progression of this prayer

He delivers us **AWAY** from evil.

He leads us **INTO** righteousness.

He forms us **TOWARD** Christlikeness.

Christ Understands Every Step of the Journey

... tempted in every respect
as we are, yet without sin.

Hebrews 4:15

He sympathises with us, He understands us,
He intercedes for us, He strengthens us. He is not
offering judgement for our struggle, but sympathy,
help, and grace in the moment we need it most.

The Father Preserves Those who Walk with Him

“Deliver us from evil.”

The LORD will keep you from all evil; He will keep your life.
The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in.

Psalm 121:7–8

I do not ask that You take them out of the world,
but that You keep them from the evil one.

John 17:15

“Deliver us from evil.”

There is an **evil one**.

There are schemes of the enemy.

There is **spiritual opposition**.

We need the Father's protection.

Sometimes He delivers us **FROM** something.

Sometimes He preserves us **THROUGH** something.

Our confidence is in **His ability to keep us.**

Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling...

Jude 24

For because He Himself has suffered when tempted,
He is able to help those who are being tempted.

Hebrews 2:18

Walking closely with the Father

Not:

How close can I get to temptation without falling into it?

But:

How closely can I walk with my Father?

Enoch walked with God...

Genesis 5:24

Walk by the Spirit, and you will not
gratify the desires of the flesh.

Galatians 5:16

The victory follows the walk.

Abide in Me, and I in you.

John 15:4

A branch doesn't anxiously try to manufacture fruit.
It remains connected to the Source of life.

When he saw the wind, he was afraid, and
beginning to sink he cried out, Lord, save me.

Matthew 14:30

Walking closely with Christ doesn't mean we will never stumble.
It means we know where to turn.

What does nearness look like?

- ▶ Walking by the Spirit
- ▶ Remaining in His Word
- ▶ Listening for His voice
- ▶ Trusting His wisdom
- ▶ Submitting to His leading

These are ordinary, daily habits of nearness.

The Lords Prayer as a Walk

- ▶ **Our Father:** I live in relationship with You.
- ▶ **Hallowed be Your name:** I want to honour You.
- ▶ **Your kingdom come:** I want Your purposes.
- ▶ **Your will be done:** I surrender.
- ▶ **Daily bread:** I depend upon You.
- ▶ **Forgive us:** when I fail, I return.
- ▶ **Lead us:** I need Your guidance.
- ▶ **Deliver us:** I need Your protection.

**The Lord's Prayer isn't merely a prayer to recite.
It is a way of walking with our Father.**

**Looking unto Jesus, the author
and finisher of our faith.**

Hebrews 12:2

Looking Unto Jesus

We don't become progressively less dependent upon God - we become aware of how completely dependent upon Him we have always been.

I need Him for today's bread.

I need His mercy when I fail.

I need His wisdom for decisions I hadn't yet made.

I need His Spirit to lead me.

I need Him to keep me from temptation.

I need Him to deliver me from evil.

Am I learning to walk closely with the Father
whom Jesus taught me to pray to?

The Journey of Dependence

- ▶ **Your will be done:** I surrender.
- ▶ **Give us this day our daily bread:** I depend.
- ▶ **Forgive us our debts:** I return.
- ▶ **Lead us not into temptation:** I remain.

Father please lead me, guide me, keep me, deliver me.

- ▶ **Peter** learned through failure.
- ▶ **Paul** learned through correction.
- ▶ **Mary** surrendered before the road began.

Father, lead me. I will follow, even where I cannot yet see.

Being conformed to the image of Jesus
produces a restful fruitfulness (John 15:5)

- ▶ fruit that grows without being forced
- ▶ fruit that is fulfilling rather than draining
- ▶ fruit that is abundant rather than scarce
- ▶ fruit that is eternally purposeful, going further,
lasting longer beyond anything manufactured
through our own effort.



Father...
Lead me.
Keep me.
Deliver me.

Stay close to the Shepherd.