



# The Greatest Prayer: Rediscovering the Revolutionary Message of the Lord's Prayer

By John Dominic Crossan

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Every Sunday, the Lord's Prayer echoes in churches around the world.

It is an indisputable principle of Christian faith. It is the way Jesus taught his followers to pray and distills the most essential beliefs required of every one of the world's 2.5 billion Christians. In *The Greatest Prayer*, our foremost Jesus scholar explores this foundational prayer line by line for the richest and fullest understanding of a prayer every Christian knows by heart.

An expert on the historical Jesus, Crossan provides just the right amount of history, scholarship, and detail for us to rediscover why this seemingly simple prayer sparked a revolution. Addressing issues of God's will for us and our response, our responsibilities to one another and to the earth, the theology of our daily bread, the moral responsibilities that come with money, our nation-states, and God's kingdom, Crossan reveals the enduring meaning and universal significance of the only prayer Jesus ever taught.

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### **Editorial Review**

From Publishers Weekly

No prayer is better known in the Christian world than the Lord's Prayer, taught by Jesus to His disciples as they listened to Him preach about the Kingdom of God. Crossan, co-founder of The Jesus Seminar and acclaimed author of many works on the life and mission of Jesus Christ, writes to answer the question, "How can we who live today hear the words of the Lord's Prayer in ways that reflect the concerns of His immediate hearers and impact our lives 2,000 years later?" Delving deeply into the story of the Jewish nation in Jesus' time, Crossan shows how Jesus, couched in the words of this prayer, advises His followers to reject violent methods of resisting their Roman captors, and instead work for the coming of the Kingdom of God, the only way to achieve true freedom. The theme of nonviolence permeates this book and becomes the foundation for Crossan's understanding, not only of the Lord's Prayer, but also of a variety of extra-biblical sources he references to support his thesis. A fine effort by a fine scholar. (Sept.) (c)

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From [Booklist](#)

Noted biblical scholar Crossan takes a fresh look at the Lord's Prayer, also called the Our Father and the Abba Prayer. Prayed by Christians of all denominations and doctrinal persuasions, yet mentioning none of the issues that divide them, it is certainly Christianity's official prayer and surely its greatest. Crossan takes key words from the prayer (Father, name, kingdom, will, bread, debt, and temptation), examines their meaning in a biblical context, and concludes that it is a revolutionary manifesto, proclaiming nonviolence and distributive justice. This seemingly radical exegesis will be as welcome to some as it is disconcerting to others. Even if one disagrees with the author's conclusions, it will be difficult to dislike his book, as one of Crossan's gifts is his ability to challenge his readers in a gentle, respectful, and nonconfrontational manner. -  
-Christopher McConnell

Review

Crossan... shows how Jesus, couched in the words of this prayer, advises His followers to reject violent methods... and instead work for the coming of the Kingdom of God, the only way to achieve true freedom. . . . A fine effort by a fine scholar."

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**From reader reviews:**

**Luis Gray:**

What do you concentrate on book? It is just for students since they are still students or the item for all people in the world, the particular best subject for that? Only you can be answered for that issue above. Every person has distinct personality and hobby for each other. Don't to be compelled someone or something that they don't would like do that. You must know how great along with important the book The Greatest Prayer: Rediscovering the Revolutionary Message of the Lord's Prayer. All type of book would you see on many sources. You can look for the internet resources or other social media.

**Bradley Sparks:**

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**Leonie Blazek:**

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**Floyd Brown:**

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