



**Teach Me to Pray**  
**Part 4**  
**“What Not to do”**  
**Luke 18:9-17**

**The Religious Man**

*Prayer had become a **ritual***  
*Prayer became **comparative***  
*Long prayers were held in high regard*  
*Prayers comprised of **repetition***  
*Prayer desired to be seen and heard by others*

**The Penitent Tax Collector**

*God is not **impressed** by the length, volume and vocabulary of our prayers*  
Matt. 6:6-7  
*Prayer is not a time to **preach***  
*Prayers should be specific and to the point*  
*Prayer is not a time to **brag***  
*Prayer is time to seek the face of God*

**Psalm 51 Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God**

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David, when Nathan the prophet went to him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.

Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your steadfast love;  
according to your abundant mercy  
blot out my transgressions.

**2** Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,  
and cleanse me from my sin!

**3** For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is ever before me.

**4** Against you, you only, have I sinned

and done what is evil in your sight,  
so that you may be justified in your words  
and blameless in your judgment.

**5** Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,  
and in sin did my mother conceive me.

**6** Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being,  
and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.

**7** Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

**8** Let me hear joy and gladness;  
let the bones that you have broken rejoice.

**9** Hide your face from my sins,  
and blot out all my iniquities.

**10** Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.

**11** Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

**12** Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and uphold me with a willing spirit.

**13** Then I will teach transgressors your ways,  
and sinners will return to you.

**14** Deliver me from blood guiltiness, O God,  
O God of my salvation,  
and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness.

**15** O Lord, open my lips,  
and my mouth will declare your praise.

**16** For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it;  
you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.

**17** The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;  
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

