

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

Modeling Your Prayer Life  
After The Prayer Life of Jesus



Lord's Prayer Curriculum  
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## Lesson 3

# Is God Your Father?

### Memory Verse:

God answered their prayers because they trusted Him. 1 Chronicles 5:20

### Lesson Goals:

- #1 - Memorize the Lord's Prayer.
- #2 - Teach the meaning of the Lord's Prayer.
- #3 - Encourage students to put into practice what they have learned from the Lord's Prayer.

### Audience:

Young, un-churched learners  
Adaptable for all ages, including adults (See **For more training** on Activities page)

### Scripture to Study:

Matthew 6:9b  
Luke 11:2

# Is God Your Father?

Matthew 6:9b

Last week, we started memorizing the Lord's Prayer. It is great to learn the prayer and it is acceptable to pray that very prayer back to God. Do you remember what else we mentioned last week? Not only is the Lord's Prayer an actual prayer, it is also what? It is a model prayer! It is an example to follow. That is why we will start learning about each part of the Lord's Prayer this week. Then you can start praying by following Jesus' example.

The Lord's Prayer begins like this, "Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be your name." (Matthew 6:9b) How many times do you think you have said that line without even thinking about what it means, much less putting it into practice in your prayer life? Well, let's change that!

"Father." What does the word *father* mean? Unfortunately it may not mean much to some of you, but let's not confuse God with our earthly fathers. Those earthly fathers, though, when they are at their best, show us a glimpse of what God is like! The word father has to do with a relationship. We have all come from God, our Creator. "It is He who has made us and not we ourselves." (Psalm 100:3 NASB)

Does the Lord's Prayer start with the word *father*, though? No, it doesn't. It starts with the word *our*. Why? Well, the Lord's Prayer is a prayer for those who don't just share a relationship with God as Creator, but who know God as their own Father. Is He your Father? He is if you have come to Him for salvation. You may be wondering what that means. Do you remember our first lesson? We talked about how much God loves you. He loved you so much that He gave His one and only Son, Jesus, to die in your place. He did this to pay the penalty of all those bad things you have done, and all the good things you haven't done. He did this so that you would have a choice. You can do our own thing and keep sinning or you can run to Him, ask for forgiveness and walk in obedience to Him. The first choice separates us from God. The second choice causes us to be adopted by God; we become His sons and daughters! Which group do you belong to? Which group do you want to be in? If you are ready to make God your Father, let's talk after the lesson.

What else does this verse tell us about God? It tells us that He is in Heaven. Heaven isn't a place on any map we have, but it is more real than any place you and I have ever been. In the Bible, Heaven is described as a city and a country. It is also described as paradise. That is where God lives. Did you know that if you decide to come to God as your Father, one day you'll get to live with Him forever?

Let's look at our verse again. It says, "Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be your name." Hallowed is a big word! It means to treat God as holy and holy is the opposite of common. It is special and different in a way that sets it apart from others. God is holy, but the Lord's Prayer speaks of us

making His name holy. What does that mean and how do we do it? Let's talk about His name, first. What is so special about God's name? God's name is an expression of God himself. God's name tells us His character; it shows us what God is like. God's name carries His reputation with it. His name and who He is are one in the same.

Did you know that the Bible uses more than one name for God? In fact it uses more than 900! There is so much to know about God that the Bible has many names for Him. We have already talked about a few of them in these first few lessons. Who remembers why Jesus shared the Lord's Prayer with His disciples? One of the disciples asked, "Lord, teach us to pray." *Lord* is a name for God and it means master, supreme in authority, the one in control. We also talked about God as our Creator. The name *God* is tied together with His act of creation. (Genesis 1:1) We have also read that Jesus used the name *Father* to refer to God.

So, now that we know some of God's names, how do we make His name holy? For one thing, we shouldn't use it in a common way. When we use God's name, it should be to talk about who He is and what He can do! It should be to talk about His greatness and His love! And it should certainly be to share that love with others so that they can come to know God as their Father, too!

## YOU can PRAY like Jesus, too!

What another good lesson! Aren't you glad God can be our Father? Our memory verse encourages us that our prayers will be heard and answered if God is our Father. "God answered their prayers because they trusted Him." 1 Chronicles 5:20

As we address God as "Our Father" in prayer, what should that prayer look like if we are to "hallow," or make holy, His name? Think about the names for God that you know, God, Creator, Lord, Father. Begin to use those in prayer, focusing on what each name means and thanking Him for how He is each of those in your life. For example, you might pray something like, "Oh God, my Creator, the way you made me is absolutely amazing. You have given me fingers that feel things, eyes that can see and a tongue that can taste all sorts of wonderful things! Thank you for doing all the work it took, sending your Son, Jesus, to die on the cross for me so that I can call you Father. . ." You get the idea! Now, put it into practice!

**Next Week: Obeying God**

# ACTIVITIES

- Memory Verse Activity - Make a card for each word of the verse; remember to include the reference. String the verse, out of order on string with clothes pins. Help your students put the verse in the correct order.
- Make Lord's Prayer Lap Books. Print the Lord's prayer leaving spaces for some of the words in the prayer. Include picture cards or word cards that can be used to "complete" the Lord's Prayer.
- Learn and sing the song "Good, Good Father." Review this lesson.
- Sing songs that reference different names of God, like "God is My Refuge," "El Shaddai," "Mighty to Save," "Days of Elijah," "Indescribable," "Lion of Judah," etc.
- Match names of God with their meanings.
- Make prayer reminders or start prayer notebooks for each student. Provide a place for notes up front. Then provide a place for the date and the prayer request. Make sure there is room to make notes and write a date when the prayer is answered.
- **For more training:** Study more of the names of God. Provide a print out for your students that provides references where each name is used in Scripture. Practice praying through those names.
- **For more training:** Read a little more about Heaven, and even the New Earth where we will ultimately live forever. Read Hebrews 11:8-16, Revelation 21-22, 2 Peter 3:1-15.



# God

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prayers

because they

**trusted Him.**

1 Chronicles 5:20

# Modeling My Prayer Life After Jesus

Lesson 3: Is God Your Father?

God answered their prayers  
because they trusted Him.  
1 Chronicles 5:20



# HIDDEN MESSAGE

Can you crack the code to the puzzle and find the Hidden Message?



Start at the arrow and write every other letter in the spaces below.

\_\_\_ answered their \_\_\_\_\_  
because they \_\_\_\_\_ Him.  
1 Chronicles 5:20



# WORD SEARCH

I R C N F F E R I T G E O  
N E J A B L E N H E C L R  
W H E N O U R F A T H E R  
M T S E L I S A L C R B R  
I N H E A V E N L H A A S  
E F S M P T M A O U X B M  
P H E A P M A E W S D T G  
G O W N H S R O E T O S E  
O L N R R C G O D O R U T  
D Y O U E A M P L P F S R  
R Y R O T A E R C R R E P  
A P N Y E L C R O A S J A  
E I X E D O O O T Y A R P  
F D I B C I P R E S F F O  
X A E M L P S D D D G B E

- Jesus

- Lord

- God

- Creator

- Our Father

- in Heaven

- hallowed

- holy

- be your name

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