

LIFE OF CHRIST
from the gospel of
Matthew

LESSON 7

THE LORD'S PRAYER

MATTHEW 6:6-14

Life of Christ

The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:6-14

Younger Verse

Ask, and you will receive.

Matthew 7:7 (CEV)

Older Verse

Ask, and you will receive. Search, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened for you.

Matthew 7:7 (CEV)

Lesson Goals

Understand the importance of talking to God in prayer
Discover that Jesus taught us how to pray
Learn the different parts of prayer

Welcome Time

Ask: Do you enjoy talking to your friends and people you love? Do you want to talk to them every once in a while or every day? Jesus wants us to talk to Him every day in prayer. And He taught us how to pray.

Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible before teaching it. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

We have looked at the teachings of Jesus for the last several weeks. He had a lot of things He wanted His new followers to know.

Jesus wanted His new friends to understand that it was important for them to pray. Prayer is the way we talk to God, our Heavenly Father. Just like we talk to a friend to stay close to them, we can talk to God.

Jesus prayed, and He wanted His followers to know how to pray and what to pray. So He gave them a model prayer. It is sometimes called "The Lord's Prayer" because Jesus, our Lord, gave it to us. This prayer gives us different things to pray about. It helps us know how to pray. *Let us look at the different parts of this prayer.*

"Our Father in Heaven, may your name be honored." A great way to begin our prayers is to praise God for who He is. He is a loving Father who cares about us. We can thank Him for all the good things He does for us.

"May your kingdom come soon. May your will be done here on earth, just as it is in heaven." It is good to pray for God's will to be done. This means that WE want what GOD wants! This should always be our prayer.

"Give us our food for today." God is the one who gives us everything we have! We can ask Him for what we need and thank Him when He provides for us.

"Forgive us our sins, just as we have forgiven those who have sinned against us." It is important to admit to God that we have sinned and ask Him to forgive us. This is called confession. And Jesus reminds us that we must forgive other people, too.

"Don't let us yield to temptation, but deliver us from the evil one." We can ask God to protect us from temptation and to help us not sin when we are tempted. He knows how tricky Satan is. We really do need God's help to fight Satan!

Now that we have looked at Jesus' model prayer, let's go over the **different parts of**

the prayer.

1. **Praise**—Lifting up God’s name and worshipping Him for who He is
2. **Praying for God’s will to be done**—Tell God we want things His way
3. **Asking for our needs**—Let God know what we need
4. **Confession**—asking for forgiveness of our sins
5. **Asking for help with temptation**—Admit to God that we need help not to sin

God wants to be our BEST friend. To be God’s friend, we need to ask Him to forgive us of our sins and be a part of our life. Then we can talk to Him anytime. And He wants to hear from us. He loves us!

Jesus knew how hard it was to live for God. He went through temptations and hard times. Many times, the Bible talks about how Jesus went away by himself to pray. We need to pray, too. God wants to give us strength to live for Him. Let us pray!

Review Questions

1. Who taught us how to pray? (Answer: Jesus)
2. How does God want us to begin our prayers? (Answer: by praising Him)
3. What does confession mean? (Answer: admitting to God that we have sinned & asking Him to forgive our sins)
4. Why is it important to pray? (Answer: to stay close to God; to have strength to live for Him)

Prayer Time

Ask for volunteers to lead in prayer. Tell them they can say just a sentence or more if they can. Encourage them to praise God, thank God and pray for their needs.

Life Application

This would be a good chance to start a prayer list with your class. Bring a jar or other container and some index cards. Ask students to write down prayer needs on the cards, or write for them if necessary. Emphasize that we can pray about anything. Examples: family members, those who do not know Christ, sick people, teachers. Keep the cards and continue to pray for these needs each week. Thank God when they are answered!

Planning for Next Lesson
Do not Judge Others
Matthew 7:1-5

Preschool Lesson For The Lord's Prayer

Jesus wanted His new friends to understand that it was important for them to pray. Prayer is the way we talk to God, our Heavenly Father. Just like we talk to a friend to stay close to them, we can talk to God.

Jesus prayed, and He wanted His followers to know how to pray and what to pray. So He gave them a model prayer. It is sometimes called "The Lord's Prayer" because Jesus, our Lord, gave it to us. This prayer gives us different things to pray about. It helps us know how to pray.

Let's listen to Jesus' prayer.

God, we love you.

We pray that people will believe in you.

Give us the food we need today.

We are sorry for all the wrong things we have done. We have forgotten all the bad things others have done to us.

Help us to do right all the time.

Here is a little prayer to pray with the kids:

Our hands we fold (fold hands)
our heads we bow (bow head)
so we can talk to God just now!

Ask the kids to echo what you say in prayer.

Sing, "God is so Good." Emphasize the verse, "He answers prayer."

Hands-on Activities For The Lord's Prayer

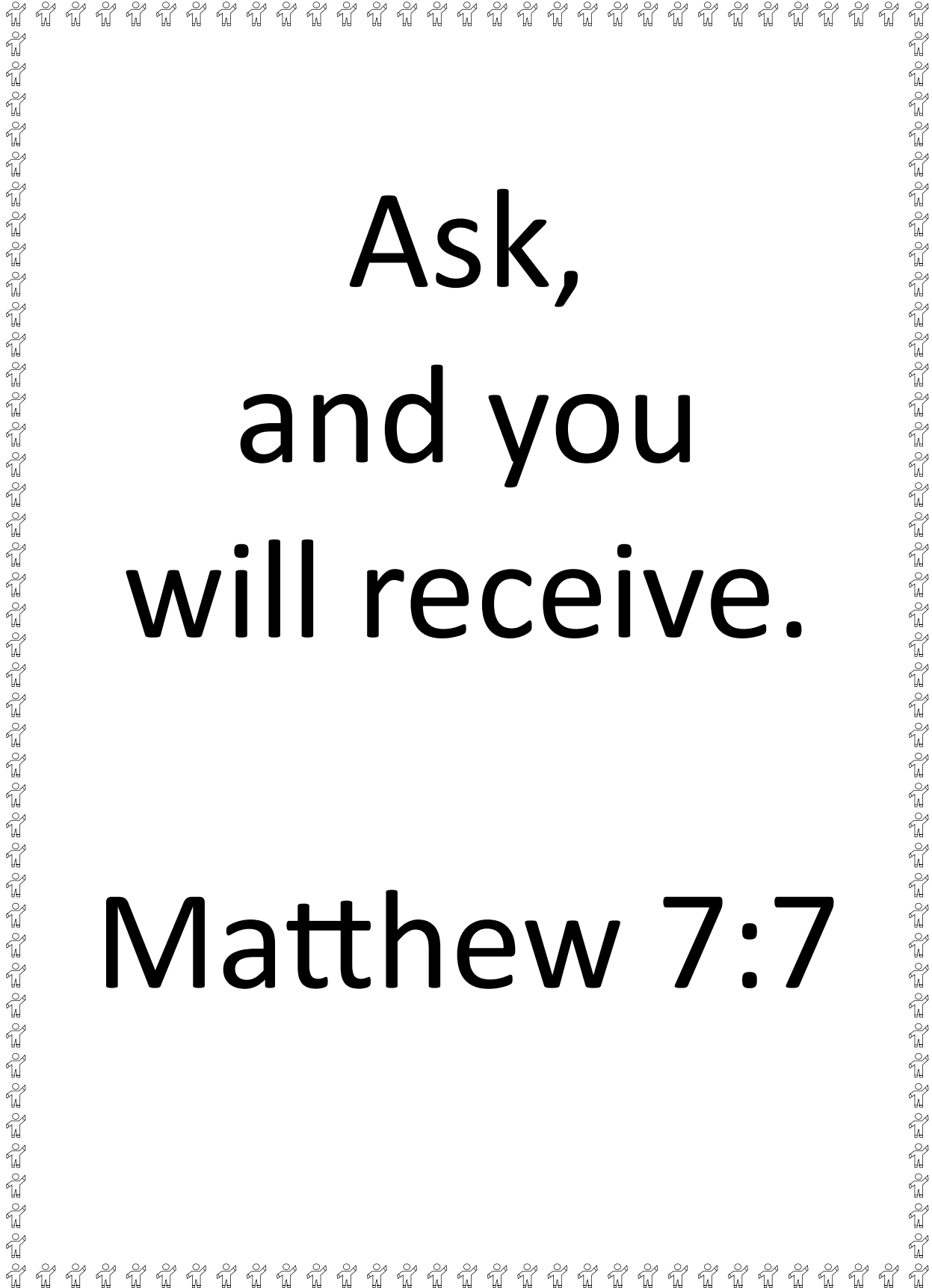
Bring a paper for each student with the Lord's Prayer on it. Have them make a card by gluing it onto construction paper or other heavy paper. They can decorate it and take it home as a reminder of how and what to pray.

Try to memorize the Lord's Prayer with your kids. Do something special when everyone memorizes the whole thing!

Cut a 12 egg carton into two 6-count egg cartons. Put a little reminder of each sentence of the prayer in each egg compartment. The 6th compartment can be the reference, Matthew 6: 9-13

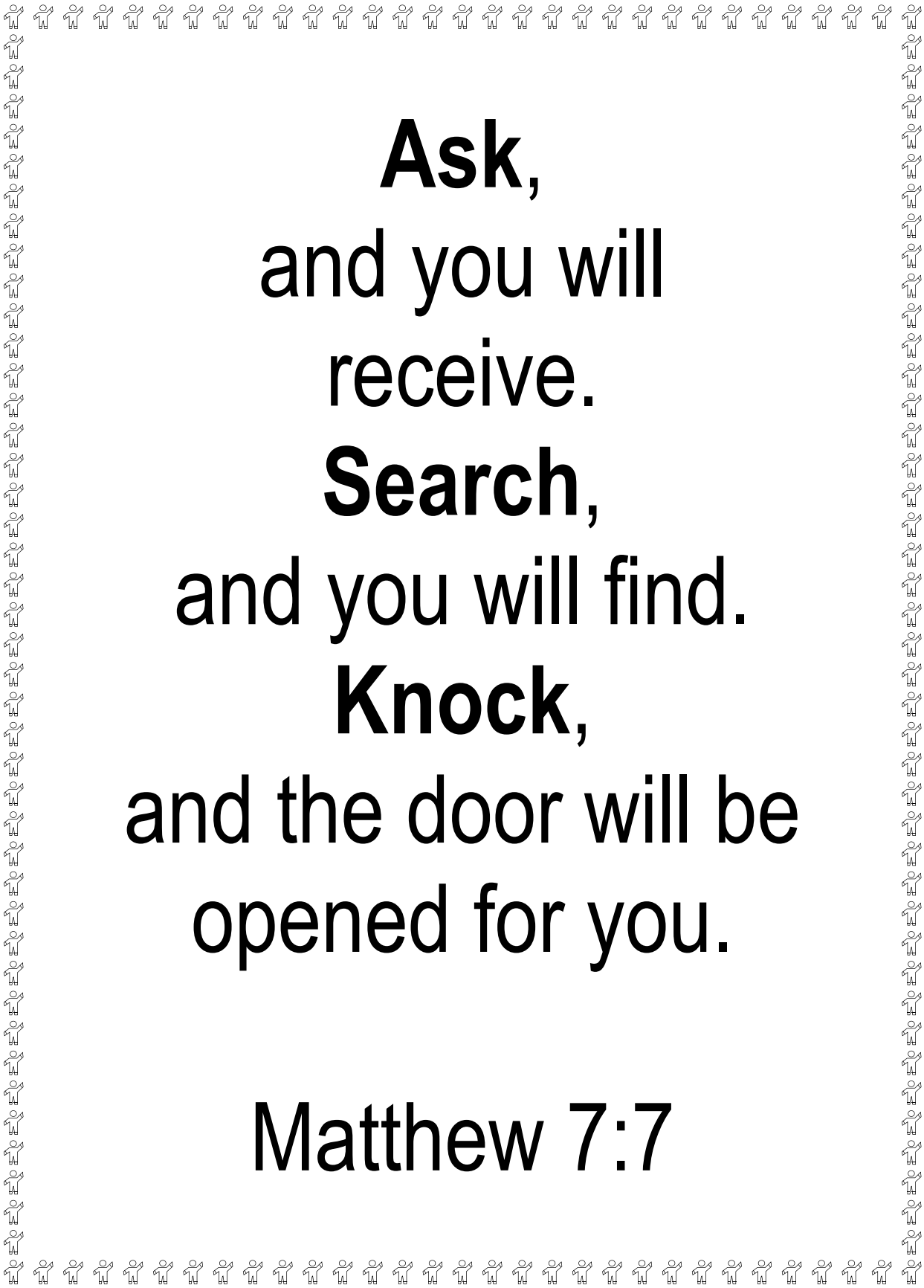
Let the kids write the prayer in **their** own words.

Let each person draw the outline of their hand. To help remember the prayer, put one verse of the prayer on each finger. Ex: thumb—Father you are holy; index finger—we pray that your kingdom will come; third finger—give us the food we need; ring finger—forgive us; pinky finger—help us when we are tested. Another idea is to write it on a surgical glove that they can take home.



Ask,
and you
will receive.

Matthew 7:7



**Ask,
and you will
receive.
Search,
and you will find.
Knock,
and the door will be
opened for you.**

Matthew 7:7

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

pray
God's will
confession

Father
today's food
protect from

name honored
forgive sins
temptation

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

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 God's will
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