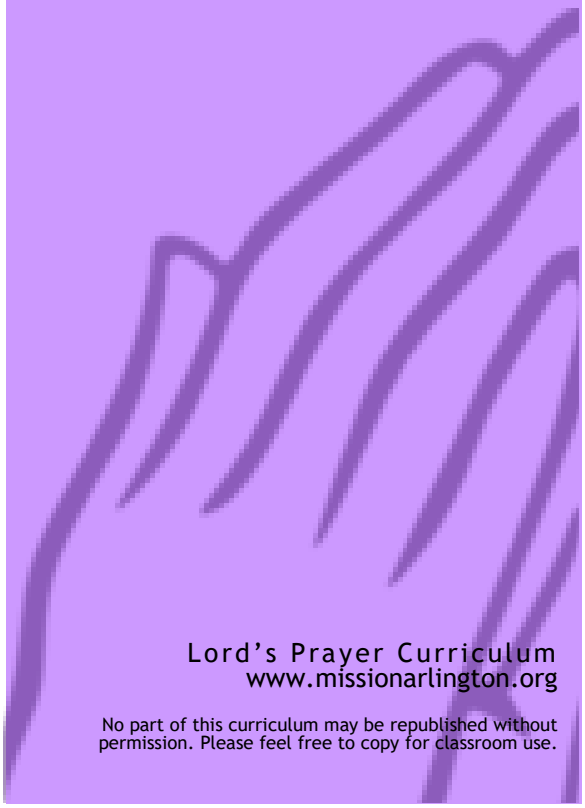
THE LORD'S PRAYER

Modeling Your Prayer Life After The Prayer Life of Jesus



Lord's Prayer Curriculum
www.missionarlington.org

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Lesson 2

Pray Like This

Memory Verse:

Never stop praying. Colossians 4:2 (ERV)

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 6:9-13 (general)
Luke 11:2-4

Lesson 2

Pray Like This

Matthew 6:9-13 (General)

We have looked at some “shoulds” and “should nots” that Jesus shared before He taught the Lord’s Prayer. What do you remember? (Allow students to answer, helping when necessary, as they review Lesson 1.)

Before we dig in to the actual prayer, there is one more bit of instruction. In the book of Luke, we read that Jesus instructs His disciples. He says, “when you pray, say,” meaning to say the prayer that follows. (11:2) In the book of Matthew, Jesus says, “So this is how you should pray.” (6:9) Those sound different, don’t they?

Let’s look a little closer and talk first about what we read in Luke. Remember, Luke records Jesus as saying, “when you pray, say.” The Lord’s Prayer is an actual prayer. Its very words can be prayed to God. Do you remember what we said prayer is? It is communication with God. With that in mind, running into God’s presence, racing through the Lord’s Prayer and running along to do something else is not at all what Jesus meant. For that matter, neither is babbling through the prayer, repeating it over and over again hoping to be heard because of the many times we’ve repeated it or by completing it the fastest! It is perfectly okay to pray the actual words we are learning, but remember that you are talking to God and should also be listening. This is a short prayer. The person who prays the most words to God doesn’t necessarily win. A real prayer doesn’t have to be long. Jesus said this prayer is acceptable to pray! Be careful, though, not to simply recite it the way you might recite the Pledge of Allegiance or a poem you have to learn for school. Be careful of its words and pray them to God, don’t just say them.

Now let’s look at Matthew’s account of the Lord’s Prayer where Jesus says, “So this is how you should pray.” Jesus instructs us **how** to pray. Even though the Lord’s Prayer is an actual prayer you can pray, it is also a model prayer, an example to follow. You don’t have to pray the exact words, but can use them to direct your praying in a way that pleases God.

The first part of the Lord’s Prayer guides us to take the focus off of ourselves for a while to focus on the One to whom we are praying, God, our Father. It says, “Our Father in heaven, may your name be honored. May your kingdom come. May what you want to happen be done on earth as it is done in heaven.” This prompts us to praise and adore God. It also helps us to think about what God wants, not just what you want!

The last part turns toward us and our needs. Matthew 6, verses 11-13 say, "Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, just as we also have forgiven those who sin against us. Keep us from sinning when we are tempted. Save us from the evil one." The focus here is still on God, but directed to the things we need every day. It also guides us to think about our spiritual needs and our deliverance from all evil. All of this comes from God.

Over the next few weeks we will be discussing each part of the Lord's prayer. We will talk about what it means and how it should direct us to pray. Before we do that, though, let's prepare ourselves to be able to pray this actual prayer to God. Let's begin learning the Lord's Prayer.

YOU can PRAY like Jesus, too!

Prayer isn't just words directed at and repeated to the sky. Prayer is conversation with God. It is personal. The Lord's prayer helps us know how to pray, all the while helping us keep our focus on God. Only He deserves our praise and honor and only He can provide for our needs whether physical or spiritual.

Before we jump into our study of the Lord's prayer as a model, let's spend some time learning the actual prayer Jesus prayed to teach His disciples how to pray. It is perfectly acceptable to pray these very words or the words of others whose prayers are recorded in Scripture.

Whatever you do, though, "Never stop praying." Colossians 4:2

Next Week: Is God Your Father?

ACTIVITIES

- Memory Verse Activity - Make a stop sign on paper plates or construction paper that says, "Never stop praying. Colossians 4:2" Draw a circle around the stop sign and line that crosses through the word STOP.

- Make Lord's Prayer Booklets. Print out the Lord's Prayer. Glue the prayer to half of a sheet of construction paper and encourage your students to title and illustrate their booklet.

- Talk about prayer as A.C.T.S. (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication)

- Make Lord's Prayer Posters. Use large sheets of manila paper or construction paper. Print the Lord's Prayer on the paper and decorate with stickers, markers, pom poms, ribbon, etc. Encourage your students to hang the poster in their bedrooms where they can review the verse each day to learn it.

- Play balloon volleyball to learn the Lord's Prayer. As the balloon volleys, each team must say a phrase of the Lord's Prayer as they hit the balloon back to the other team.

- Make Lord's Prayer Flash Cards. Write one phrase at a time on index cards. Make a set for each student, securing with a ring or ribbon.

- Set up The Lord's Prayer Scavenger Hunt in your study area. Choose 6 locations. At the first location provide printed instructions for the game as well as instructions for finding the next location. At each consecutive location hide a phrase from the Lord's Prayer or a clue to prompt that phrase, with clues for the following location. When students have been to all locations, practice saying the Lord's Prayer.

NEVER

stop

praying.

Colossians 4:2

Modeling My Prayer Life After Jesus

Lesson 2: Pray Like This



Never stop praying.
Colossians 4:2

HIDDEN MESSAGE

Complete each phrase of the Lord's Prayer to crack the code and find the Hidden Message.

Our Father in heaven, __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ be your name,

Your kingdom come, Your will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our __ __ __ __ __ bread.

And __ __ __ __ __ __ __ us our debts

as we also have forgiven our debtors.

And lead us not into __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __,

but deliver us from the evil one.

Matthew 6:9-13

Unscramble the circled letter above to answer the question.
What did Jesus' disciple ask Him to do?
Lord, teach us to ___ ___ ___ ___.

WORD SEARCH



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

_____ _____, _____ be your name, your kingdom come, _____, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our _____. And _____ our debts as we also _____ our debtors. And _____ into temptation, but _____ from the evil one. Matthew 6:13-18

Answer Page

HIDDEN MESSAGE

Complete each phrase of the Lord's Prayer to crack the code and find the Hidden Message.

Our Father in heaven, H A L L O W E D be your name,

Your kingdom come, Your will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our D A I L Y bread.

And F O R G I V E us our debts

as we also have forgiven our debtors.

And lead us not into T E M P T A T I O N,

but deliver us from the evil one.

Matthew 6:9-13

Unscramble the circled letter above to answer the question.
What did Jesus' disciple ask Him to do?
Lord, teach us to P R A Y.

Answer Page

WORD SEARCH



Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. Matthew 6:13-18