

Sunday, March 15th – A Prayer Lesson

Bible Passage: Luke 11:1-13

Bible Story: The Lord's Prayer

Resources (the next three pages)

The Lord's Prayer Opening

A Prayer Lesson Handout

The Lord's Prayer Coloring Page

Scripture Snapshot

With Jesus' disciples, we, too, implore, "Lord, teach us to pray." Jesus teaches His disciples – and all humankind – the prayer used throughout the Church to this day. Jesus follows His instruction with a parable, illustrating how our heavenly Father unfailingly hears all our prayers.

Talking Points

What are some different ways you can communicate with friends and family?

How can you communicate with God?

How does He communicate with you?

Talk about all the different prayers you use – Luther's morning & evening prayers, mealtime prayers, bedtime prayers, etc.

Liturgy Link

Who says "Let us pray" in church? (Pastor)

When you hear these words, it means we are ready to talk to God. What can you do to show you are ready?

(Bow head, fold hands, listen to the prayer)

After Pastor prays, you can say "Lord, hear our prayer," with everyone else. (Practice doing this with the prayers during recorded worship services or other prayers at home)

Other Ideas

Song – [The Lord's Prayer](#) by Concordia Publishing House, from a Vacation Bible School curriculum

Song - [God, Our Father, Hear Your Children](#) also by Concordia Publishing House, Little Ones Sing Praise

Cartoon – Douglas Talks – [The Lord's Prayer | Explaining the Lord's Prayer for kids](#) (about 5 min)

Cartoon – Douglas Talks – [Talking to God | Why should we pray? Doesn't God already know what we need?](#) (about 5 min)

Cartoon – Douglas Talks – [How to Pray](#) (just over 14 min)

Older children - [LCMS President Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison on Luther's Simple Way to Pray](#) (May 2013, 5min 18 sec)

LESSON 2 OPENING

A PRAYER LESSON: THE LORD'S PRAYER

Jesus tells us that we are to pray in His name. As Christians, we should always pray in the name of Christ. But we should not use His name as if it were a magic password to get our prayers heard. There is a good reason why we must always pray in His name. Maybe you can see this reason by pretending to go to the library with me.

I hope you all have been to the library and have a card such as this one. *Show child's card*. As you go through the shelves, you find several books that you want to take home. *Show books*. You take the books and your card to the librarian. But as she looks at your card, she frowns and checks your card against her computer screen.

"I'm sorry," she says, "but you can't check out any more books. The last time you checked out books, you returned them late, one had a page missing, and several had jelly smeared all over them." You tell her that you are sorry and that you'll do better next time. But she still says you can't have the books.

Just then, your mother comes in to get you. The librarian explains why you can't have the books. Your mother agrees that the librarian is right; however, your mother also believes that you will try to do better next time. So she takes out her library card (*show adult card*) and gives it to the librarian. You still get your books, but you get them in your mother's name. She is accepting the responsibility for you. If you mess up the books, it will be on her card.

In the same way, you have ruined your right to ask God for anything. You have not done all that He has commanded. You have not served Him and loved Him as you should. You have not loved other people as He told you to. None of us have. I know you haven't, and I haven't either. But God still loves us. Christ has come to be our Savior. He has accepted the responsibility for our sin. Now He says we can pray to God. We can pray, but not because we deserve it: we can't ask on our own card. But we can pray in His name; we can ask on His card.

Often, we are afraid to ask God for help because we know we don't deserve it. But it would be just as bad to ask Him if we thought we did deserve it. Yet we can have His help, because He wants to give it. Christ has earned our right to pray to God. When we ask in His name, we have the right to pray.

Pray: Heavenly Father, thank You that You invite us to pray to You for all things at all times. Help me always to trust in Your promise to give me just what I need when I need it. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

LESSON TEXT

Luke 11:1–13

BIBLE TRUTH

Jesus teaches us to pray.

FAITH FOCUS

The Second Commandment

LAW & GOSPEL

We neglect the gift of prayer, failing to look to God our Father for all things.

Jesus teaches us to pray, promising that the Father hears and answers all our prayers.

BIBLE VERSE

Pray for one another.
James 5:16

VISUAL HELPS

Two library cards, one child's and one adult's (assuming they are different; if not, make cards that are obviously different); a stack of children's books

A PRAYER LESSON—THE LORD’S PRAYER

Unit 3, Lesson 2

Praying for Others

Directions: Jesus teaches us to pray. In each thought bubble below, write down a prayer request for someone other than yourself. Jesus promises that God our Father hears and answers all our prayers. Continue to pray these prayer requests at home in your personal prayers.



The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever.

Amen.

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