

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Modeling Your Prayer Life
After The Prayer Life of Jesus

Lord's Prayer Curriculum
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Our Basic Needs

Memory Verse:

What you should want most is God's kingdom and doing what he wants you to do. Then he will give you all these other things you need. Matthew 6:33 (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 6:11, 25-34

Our Basic Needs

Matthew 6:10

“Our Father in Heaven hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread.” (Matthew 6:10)

So far in our study of the Lord’s prayer we have been completely focused on God. We have talked about having God as our Father and making His name holy in the way we talk to Him and in the way we live our lives. We have even talked about some of His names; Lord (Master), Elohim (God), and Jesus (God saves). We have also talked about the need to obey God as we are a part of His kingdom on earth.

The next part of the Lord’s Prayer is still focused on God, but recognizes our own personal needs. The focus is still on God because He is the One who provides for our needs. In fact, one of the names of God in the Bible is Jehovah-Jireh, which means “the Lord who Provides.” In some of the verses after the Lord’s Prayer in Matthew, chapter six, we read, “Look at the birds of the air. They don’t plant or gather crops. They don’t put away crops in storerooms. But your Father who is in heaven feeds them. Aren’t you worth much more than they are?” (Matthew 6:26 NIV) You are! That is why Jesus taught us to ask God for what we need. The idea here is to depend completely on God, our Father, for even the most simple need we have, like bread.

For those who live in a place where food is hard to find, this prayer encourages you to depend on God for the next bite of food in a way that most people who live in a land of abundance don’t understand. For those who live in a place where all kinds of food are easy to find, there is a second sub meaning in this verse. It is the idea that we ask only for the bread needed for today, what will keep us alive today, day by day. We are asking for the best from God for the body He gave us. This would leave out treating our body badly by over-eating or eating junk food. Those things aren’t needs; they are too much of a good thing or don’t give the body the nutrients and energy it needs for the day’s work.

When Jesus gave us this prayer as an example of how to pray, do you think He was teaching us that we can only ask for food or should we depend on Him for all our needs? Before we answer that, let’s look at the end of the sixth chapter of Matthew. Read Matthew 6:28-32. Not only does God feed the birds and us, He also provides for flowers that don’t even live long. Certainly He will provide for your needs! So the answer to our earlier question is, “No.” When Jesus taught His disciples the Lord’s Prayer, food was not the only thing on His mind. We can depend on God to supply all of our needs, but not necessarily all of our wants. This happens within the relationship of Father to child, as subjects of His Kingdom.

Matthew 6:33 echoes our last lesson, “What you should want most is God’s kingdom and doing

what he wants you to do. Then he will give you all these other things you need.” (ERV) What should be our first priority; what should we do first? Should we worry about food and clothes and other things or should we be busy doing what God wants us to? If we belong to Him and are a part of the kingdom of God by becoming His children, then we should be busy doing what God wants. When we do, Jesus promised that all the other things that we need would be given to us.

Did you know that there is a need all of us have that God took care of long before we were ever aware that we needed it? What do you think it could be? It is our salvation! “God chose us to belong to Christ before the world was created. He chose us to be holy and without blame in his eyes. He loved us. So he decided long ago to adopt us. He adopted us as his children with all the rights children have. He did it because of what Jesus Christ has done. It pleased God to do it.” (Ephesians 1:4-5) What a beautiful thought! It pleased God to send His one and only Son to die on the cross so that we could be adopted as His sons and daughters. The biggest need we will ever have, a way to be made right with the God we sin against, has already been provided! It has been provided by God, the one who chose YOU before the world was created. Have you accepted Him as your Father to become part of the family of God? Won’t you today?

YOU can PRAY like Jesus, too!

Isn’t it amazing that when what we “want most is God’s kingdom and doing what he wants [us] to do, then He will give [us] all these other things we need?” Matthew 6:33 (ERV) God wants to hear from us, though. That is what Jesus taught us in the Lord’s Prayer. God wants you to tell Him what you need, even though He already knows. Maybe it’s because He wants us to realize that when He answers, it comes from Him. He is Jehovah-Jireh, the One who Provides.

When you pray, you can add that name to the others when you “hallow His name,” or make God’s name holy. That means His name is different than other names because they tell us what God is like. Remember His names as you pray.

Next Week: Forgiveness

ACTIVITIES

- Memory Verse Activity - Print the memory verse around a paper plate. Then cut out pictures of bread from magazines and paste them on the paper plate.
- Make Daily Bread Snacks. This can be cinnamon rolls, sandwiches, or anything that includes bread.
- Make a bird mask or origami bird and review Matthew 6:25-33. Discuss this passage.
- Write the Lord's Prayer in your own words.
- Provide a picture of Jesus with His arms opened wide. Encourage students to write on the picture a need or something that is worrying them. Suggest they give it to God in prayer.
- **For more training:** Read Genesis 22:1-18. This passage is where the name Jehovah-Jireh is first used. It is about Abraham and Isaac, but it points straight to Jesus. Verse 13 mentions a ram sacrificed in Isaac's place. Jesus was sacrificed in your place. In verse 18, God reminds Abraham of His promise to bless "all nations" through Abraham's descendant, Jesus.
- **For more training:** Read Daniel 1. Provide crafts and coloring pages that support the story. Discuss Daniel's decision regarding what he ate and its results.

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**God's
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Matthew 6:33

Modeling My Prayer Life After Jesus

Lesson 5: Our Basic Needs

What you should want most is God's kingdom and doing what he wants you to do. Then he will give you all these other things you need. Matthew 6:33



HIDDEN MESSAGE

↓ BGTIEVLEUUYSENTJHOIPSADSADYEORUTRCDSAWIELTYRBVREYAUD

Starting at the arrow, cross out every other letter to reveal the secret message.
Jesus taught us to pray

“-----”

WORD SEARCH

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

Fill in the missing words. Then find them in the Word Search.

What you should _____ is _____ and doing _____ you to do.
 Then _____ you all these _____ you _____ 6:33

HIDDEN MESSAGE

↓ BGTIEVLEUUYNSNTJHOIPSADSADYEORUTRCDSAWIELTYRBVREYAUD

Starting at the arrow, cross out every other letter to reveal the secret message.

Jesus taught us to pray

"Give us this day our daily bread."

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