

Reality – Bible Lesson for August 2, 2020 – Preschool

The Lord's Prayer

Five weeks of memorizing the Lord's Prayer through a verse by verse study

Lesson 1

1. **Lesson:** "Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name..."
2. **Scripture:** Matthew 6:5-13
3. **Memory Verse:** "Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name..." – Matthew 6:9
4. **The Jesus Storybook Bible:** Pages 222 – 224
5. **The Beginner's Bible:** Page 323
6. **God's Story for Me Bible:** Pages 374-375
7. **Materials useful in teaching the lesson – Craft:** downloaded template, scissors, scissors, glue or glue sticks, black crayons and markers, black construction paper
Memory Verse Game: a copy of the hand motions from the lesson

Craft: Preschool – Praying Hands Silhouettes (easy version)

<http://www.dltk-bible.com/t.asp?t=http://www.dltk-bible.com/crafts/images/bhands.gif>

<http://www.dltk-bible.com/crafts/mhands.htm>

Videos you can use to reinforce the story:

Preschool -

Why we should pray:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZG9uy0WtK98>

The Lord's Prayer:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=69JT4zsV_uY

Song: The Lord's Prayer (for kids)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u0mA9SGZVjs>

1. Prayer and Welcome Activity: Pray with your children – then introduce the following attention grabber:

Say: We're going to play a game of Mother May I (or Father May I). I'm going to be the Mother/Father. I want all of you to stand, shoulder to shoulder, about ten feet away from me. (Help them do this.)

Now, you're going to take turns asking me if all of you may take steps toward me. (Examples requests may include, "Mother, may I take five giant steps?" "Father, may I take twelve karate steps?" etc.) The teacher will respond "yes, you may," or "no, you may not." Grant some requests, but not all. Encourage the children to make up silly sorts of steps because this makes it more fun. Allow game play to continue for a few rounds.

That was fun. Did you notice that sometimes I said "yes" and sometimes I said "no"? Prayer is like that. God always wants the best for us so He will answer our prayers with actions that show how much He loves us. Prayer is the way we talk to God and it is so important that Jesus gave us an example of how to pray. But first, let's find out what prayer is all about...

2. Bible Story: (You can use the lesson below or read the first verse of the Lord's Prayer from "The Jesus Storybook Bible – Pages from Pages 222 – 224, "The Beginner's Bible" – Page 323, or the "God's Story for Me Bible" – Pages 374 - 375)

Today we're starting a new series in Sunday school. For the next five weeks, we are going to be studying and memorizing "The Lord's Prayer." As we begin that, we're going to spend some time learning about prayer. When Jesus' disciple asked Him to teach them to pray, Jesus answered him by praying. He gave His disciples an example of prayer – The Lord's Prayer.

Psalms 139:4 says, "Lord, even before I speak a word, You know all about it." God knows what you are going to say even before you say it! But even though God already knows what you're going to say, you still need to pray. Prayer doesn't change what God knows – prayer changes us. Prayer is about telling God all that is in our hearts and God hearing us with His amazing love.

Even when we have hard things to pray for and we just don't know what to pray, God sends the Holy Spirit to help us. God is the perfect Father and He gives us the Holy Spirit to comfort us through the tough times - even when we don't know what words to use. We can always pray because Jesus made it possible for us to talk to God. We can have a relationship with God because Jesus died for our sins.

Now let's look at what happened right before Jesus gave us the example of the Lord's Prayer. Jesus went up a mountainside and sat down – ready to begin teaching His disciples. His lessons are called the Sermon on the Mount – perhaps the most famous sermon that has ever been given. It holds many things that we need to know – including how to pray.

Before Jesus taught His disciples the Lord's Prayer, He told them some do's and don'ts of prayer. The first thing Jesus said was not to be like those who pretend to be holy. Jesus didn't want people to pray like they believed one thing but thought or did another.

Let's think of an example: What if you want to tell your friend that you got a new bike and you stand on a street corner where everyone can see and hear you and shout it loudly – telling your friend all the great things about your bike and even how expensive it is. You would probably be showing off. The people Jesus was talking about in the Book of Matthew were just trying to show people how well they could pray. God doesn't want us to do that. He wants our prayers to be special conversations with Him.

Also, God said not to keep talking on and on – don't babble. God doesn't need you to keep repeating yourself. For example, you go to your Mom or Dad and say, "Can I have a cookie? Dad or Mom will say "yes" or "no." But what if you say, "Dad can I have a cookie? Dad can I have a cookie? Dan can I have a cookie? Dad can I have a cookie? Dad can I have a cookie?" That would be babbling. We must trust that God knows what is best and we must be willing to wait for His timing. We can't badger God into doing what we want.

Jesus also told us what to do when we pray – He said to pray our thoughts to God. The Bible says that we should pray with a right heart, pray all the time, pray in faith – knowing God hears you, thank God for all He does for you, pray with a humble heart, and remember, as you pray, that God loves you no matter what.

Now, I'm going to read the entire Lord's Prayer. Then, we'll concentrate on just the first part of it – talking about it and memorizing it step by step. When we pray the Lord's prayer from memory, something wonderful and beautiful happens to us. Ready?

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
For Thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory forever. Amen
(Matthew 6:9-13) KJV

The first thing we read in verse 9, right before Jesus says The Lord's Prayer, is "pray like this." Jesus does not tell us that we must pray the Lord's Prayer word for word every time we pray. He says pray like this. It is an example of how we should pray and some of the things we should pray for. But the Lord's Prayer is a perfect prayer because it came from the perfect Pray-er – Jesus. You can pray it whenever you want. You can pray it word for word and that's how we're going to learn it and memorize it as we study it for the next five weeks.

(Please write the first line on a piece of paper or on a white board.)
Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.

Let's look at the words, "**Our Father.**" There are other places in the Bible where it says God is like a father to us. God wants the best for us and so He helps us do what is right. Can you think of some qualities that good fathers have? (Give them a chance to

respond.) Good fathers are loving, help us learn new things, protect us, provide for our needs, listen to us, invite us to talk to them, and even discipline us when we need it.

The next part of the first sentence is **"which art in heaven."** The Bible tells us some things about heaven, but it doesn't tell us everything. We can't even begin to imagine all the glorious things we'll see in heaven! But the Bible says that the Kingdom of Heaven **is** a real place and because God is our Father in heaven, we worship Him and give Him glory.

Following this, we have, **"hallowed be Thy name."** That means that we honor God's name. His name is holy and special. His name is kept separate and we use it in reverence because of who God is. Let's think about your names...they are special and important to you. You may even know the meaning of your name. (Give time for some children to share this.) Back in Bible times, many people chose names for their babies based on who they wanted them to be when they grew up or even what they looked like. Some people have more than one name because their different names stand for the different roles they have. For example, you each have your own name, but you are also a student. You may be brothers, sisters, daughters, sons, pitcher of a baseball team, class president, and so much more.

God also has different names in the Bible, and they are all to be kept set apart and holy. A few names of God are Father, Savior, Alpha and Omega, the Good Shepherd, Lamb of God, Prince of Peace, and ancient names such as Yahweh, Elohim, and Adonay. God tells us to treat His name as holy. God doesn't need our help to be holy – He **is** holy. Jesus told us how we are to honor God in Mark 12:30... "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Love him with all your mind and with all your strength."

Preschool:

(For younger children, please teach them these hand motions 😊)

Our Father (Make a circle around your face with your right hand.)

In Heaven (Point to heaven using your left hand.)

Hallowed be (Place both your hands in front of your face, palms facing out.)

Your name. (Touch your lips with your pointer and middle finger.)

3.Bible Application - Craft: : Praying Hands Silhouettes



Preschool –

Instructions: METHOD 2 (Black crayons or markers - younger children)

- print the template
- cut out the hands (this time we're going to keep the hands). This step may require adult help and can be done prior to craft time.
- Make a roll of masking tape (or a couple of them) and put them on the back of the hands
- Tape the hands to a second piece of scrap paper.
- Have the children color the praying hands with black crayons or markers.
- Remove from the scrap paper.
- Glue or tape the hands to a fresh piece of white paper.
- Add a black construction paper frame if desired.

4. Memory Verse: Have the children say the memory verse one more time – “Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name...” - Matthew 6:9

USE ANY OF THE MEMORIZATION TECHNIQUES THAT WE HAVE ALREADY USED IN THE LESSON.

5. Closing Prayer: Lead the children in a closing prayer. Encourage your child/children to also say their own individual prayers about any additional concerns they have.

