



November 11, 2020
Small Group 4th - 5th grade

JESUS TAUGHT ABOUT PRAYER | *Luke 11; 18*

Memory Verse: ²⁵ "All this I have spoken while still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

JOHN 14:25-26

Big Picture Question: What did Jesus teach when He was on earth?

Bottom Line: I count on God to do what is right.

Christ Connection: Jesus taught us to pray. Because of Jesus, we can pray to God as a Father and ask for what we need. We can trust that God is good and loving, and we can count on Him to do what is right.

LARGE GROUP: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways.

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Next Steps As we continue our journey through the Bible, it is important to always remember that we are studying the bible so that we will grow to love, follow, and obey Jesus. We aren't just learning to know things. We are learning so that we will do things that honor God. What is your next step? You can talk about this in your group, but begin to think about it now:

- Believe: believe that you are a sinner who needs a Savior and Jesus is your Savior because He died for you and rose again.
- Get baptized: show your faith by getting dipped back in the water and raised out of the water.
- Read your Bible and pray: read your Bible and pray every day so that you get to know God personally
- Serve others: serve others at home, at school, and at church.

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect (40 Minutes)

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

Bible Skills and Discussion

What You Need: Bibles

What You Do: Distribute a Bible to each kid. Help kids find Luke 11. Explain Jesus often went places where He could be alone to pray. Sometimes His disciples went with Him. Choose a volunteer to read aloud Luke 11:9-10. Like the man went to his neighbor for what he needed, God wants us to ask Him for exactly what we need. He tells us to ask, seek, and knock.

Discussion Questions

- **Why did Jesus say the friend would help his neighbor even late at night?** (His neighbor asked boldly, Luke 11:8)
- **What did Jesus say a father would not give his son?** (a snake, a scorpion; Luke 11:11-12)
- **Why did the unjust judge do the right thing for the widow?** (She kept asking, Luke 18:4-5)
- **How do these parables encourage us to pray?** Guide kids to see that in each case, the person being asked was a sinner and still did the right thing. Jesus wanted people to see that because God is much greater than people, He can be trusted to hear our prayers and respond in the perfect way.
- **Can you think of a time you prayed for something specific? What happened?** Guide kids to provide specific examples from their lives. Do not allow any kids to shame kids for asking for things that seem silly or unimportant. Encourage kids to discuss honestly if they get the answer they wanted and how they knew.
- **What are some things you are praying about now?** Encourage kids to share their requests with the group if they want to. Write them down. Offer time for the kids to pray for one another. Close the time by thanking God for always doing what is best. Challenge the kids to pray for one another throughout the week.
- **Will God always give us what we ask for when we pray?** Lead kids to recognize that the Bible says God gives us what we ask for when we ask according to His will or His plan. Sometimes God does not give us what we ask for because He has a better plan for us. We can trust that God is good and loving, and we can count on Him to do what is right. (Read 1 John 5:14)
- **Why do we pray?** Remind kids that prayer is how we talk to God. We can praise Him, confess our sins, thank Him, and ask for help. Prayer shows our dependence on God and our trust in Him. (Read Hebrews 4:16)
- **What can you do when you aren't sure what to pray?** Encourage kids to think of prayer like having a conversation with a friend at the lunch table. We can share our feelings and our thoughts. God knows our hearts and is happy to hear from us. Our prayers don't need to be long or eloquent. Remind kids that the Holy Spirit helps us when we pray. (Read Psalms 34:17)

Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Memory Verse Poster, sticky notes with words of Memory Verse written on several notes

What You Do:

Before the session, write the memory verse as words or phrases on separate sticky notes. Scatter the notes around the room. Display the memory verse poster. Lead kids in reading aloud John 14:24-26 together.

Challenge kids to find and collect the parts of the memory verse on the sticky notes around the room. Invite kids to work together to arrange the memory verse in the correct order. When kids finish, lead them to read the memory verse together.

What You Say: "What did Jesus teach when He was on earth? Jesus taught about God and His kingdom. He taught that all scripture is about Him. Jesus' ministry on earth lasted for three years. Jesus promised that when He left, He would send the Holy Spirit to help them - and He did!"

Pray and Dismiss

What You Need: Journal page (1 for each kid), markers/crayons, Bibles

What You Do: Distribute journal pages and pencils. Ask the kids to write about or draw a picture to answer the following questions:

- What do we learn about following God from today's passage?
- What is one thing that God is teaching you right now?
- Where is one area that you would like to be closer to God?
- What is your next step to keep loving, following and obeying Jesus? (Believe, Baptism)

When your kids identify their next steps, take note and circle back to them so that you can help them and

give them/their parents resources to help them take their next step.

- Pray for your group. Father God, when we pray, we know You hear us. Thank You for speaking to us through Your Word. We can tell You exactly how we feel and exactly what we need. You are a good Father. We pray that everyone would come to know and trust in Jesus, and that the nations would call out to You and be saved for Your glory. Amen.