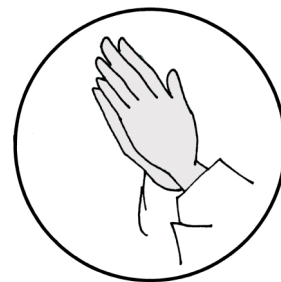


Lesson #1-21***The Lord's Prayer***

Matthew 6:7-21 [25-34]

**Key Verse:**

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Matthew 6:21

The Point:

Jesus teaches us how to pray.

Unit Theme (January 27—February 10):

Learning to Follow

Living the Story: Prayer

In each Living the Word: Small Groups guide (as with all of our main products), we include instructions on how to do a particular faith practice related to the day's Bible reading.

Supplies

- ✝ Paper
- ✝ Pens or pencils
- ✝ Tape (optional)

Break into seven groups, having each group take one petition of the Lord's Prayer and give each group one of the seven petitions (listed below) of the Lord's Prayer (if your group is too small to break into seven groups consider breaking into three or four groups, and giving each group two or three petitions instead of one—just be prepared to give each group more time if that is the case). Each group is then charged with the following task: rewrite the petition using contemporary language. To do this task, ask the following

questions: What is at the heart of this petition? What words, phrases, or metaphors might help get the point across?

For example, your group might have “Give us this day our daily bread.” You might determine that what this petition is really saying is that God will provide us whatever we need. So, you might rewrite that petition as “Give us everything we need: food, shelter, and a loving family.”

When each group is finished, tape (or write) the new petitions in a central place so that all can see. Then, pray the prayer together as your closing prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

Introduction: Our Father in heaven,

Petition 1: hallowed be your name.

Petition 2: Your kingdom come.

Petition 3: Your will be done, on earth as it is
in heaven.

Petition 4: Give us this day our daily bread.

Petition 5: And forgive us our sins as we
forgive those who sin against us.

Petition 6: Save us from the time of trial

Petition 7: and deliver us from evil.

Doxology: For the kingdom, the power, and
the glory are yours, now and forever.

Amen.