Welcome to talk with God

Matthew 6:5-13

> Jesus invites us to pray to our Father with trust and honesty.

What children should be able to do by the end

Name the main themes of the Lord's Prayer and suggest one simple prayer in ordinary words.

Read & gather

Read aloud: Matthew 6:5-13. Memory passage: Matthew 6:9.

Basic kit: Bible, paper, pencils or crayons, child-safe scissors, glue or tape. Paper, pencils, crayons, and tape.

Before class, read the full passage and the activity example. Practice unfamiliar names and choose an age adaptation.

Words to explain

Prayer: talking with God and attending to him. Hallowed: honored as holy. Daily bread: what we need for life.

Your 60-minute flow

0-5 minutes | Welcome & wonder

Use Welcome & wonder on page 2. Invite answers and allow children to listen quietly.

5-10 minutes | Worship & prayer

Offer thanks to God. Sing a familiar, church-approved song or speak a line of praise. Listening quietly is welcome.

10-15 minutes | Bible & memory

Find the reading together. Read the memory passage from your Bible. Repeat short phrases with simple gestures.

15-27 minutes | Discover the story

Read the named verses. Use the three retelling paragraphs and The Jesus connection on page 2.

27-35 minutes | Talk it through

Ask the three questions on page 2, one at a time. Give thinking time and use the answer guidance.

35-50 minutes | Create & practice

Use the purpose, example, and steps on page 3. Then use the separate Student Discovery Page on page 4. Unfinished drawing may go home.

50-55 minutes | Respond & pray

Connect the big idea with a choice this week. Offer voluntary prayer or quiet reflection.

55-60 minutes | Remember & take home

Use the learning check on page 3 and repeat the main teaching. Tidy supplies and give caregivers the Family Connection on page 5.

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Welcome & wonder

Ask whether a good conversation needs fancy words. Explain that Jesus teaches us how to speak with God.

Tell the story

Read the passage in your preferred translation. NIV is our reference translation; this is an original retelling, not a Bible quotation.

1. Jesus taught his followers about prayer. He warned against praying to impress an audience or piling up words as if length could force God to listen. Their Father already knew their needs. Prayer was a relationship of trust, not a performance.

2. Jesus gave them a pattern. They could honor their Father's name, ask for his kingdom and will, bring daily needs, seek forgiveness, and ask for help against temptation and evil. The prayer includes both love for God and ordinary human needs. It also speaks about forgiving others.

3. We may pray Jesus' words from our Bible and use them to shape our own prayers. "Give us" reminds us that other people's needs matter too. A short, honest prayer can be full of trust. Children can speak, draw a prayer, or join quietly while someone else leads. Our Father's welcome does not depend on impressive language.

The Jesus connection

> Jesus brings us into relationship with the Father and teaches us to approach him with confidence.

Talk it through

Why should we not pray to impress people?

Prayer is for relationship with God, not applause.

What everyday need appears in Jesus' prayer?

Daily bread, reminding us to ask for what we need.

Why does the prayer say "us"?

We pray as people who care about others as well as ourselves.

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A prayer pattern window

Why children are doing this: Children use four sections to organize thoughtful prayer.

Teacher example: Under Honor God, write Father, you are good. Under Our Needs, write Please give us what we need today. Children may draw or listen instead of writing.

Teacher instructions: Explain one step at a time and help children try it. Children may draw or tell you their answers.

1. Fold a page into four sections: Honor God; God's way; Our needs; Forgiveness and help.

2. Read Matthew 6:9-13 slowly and match its ideas with the sections.

3. Draw one picture or write one simple sentence in each section. Explain unfamiliar words before writing.

4. Invite children to use one section for a short prayer. Then pray the whole passage from your Bible together at an unhurried pace.

Grades 1-2

Use a crown, path, bread, and helping hand as picture prompts.

Grades 3-5

Explain how asking for God's will changes a prayer focused only on personal wishes.

Offer movement breaks, a quiet space, picture choices, or an adult scribe. Adapt to the child, not only the grade.

Teach with care

Some children have difficult experiences with fathers. Explain God's faithful care without requiring them to compare him with their own family.

Prayer invitation

Father, we honor you. Help us follow your way, receive what we need, and forgive as we are forgiven.

Check what children learned

Choose one part of Jesus' prayer and explain it.

Student Discovery Page: answer guide

1. Prayer is for relationship with God, not applause. 2. Daily bread, reminding us to ask for what we need. 3. We pray as people who care about others as well as ourselves.

Drawings and personal responses vary. Look for understanding rather than polished artwork.

Welcome to talk with God

Matthew 6:5-13

Name: _____ Date: _____

Jesus invites us to pray to our Father with trust and honesty.

Explore the story

1. Why should we not pray to impress people?

2. What everyday need appears in Jesus' prayer?

3. Why does the prayer say "us"?

Draw & discover

Draw a daily need you can bring to God.

Think about it

What is different about praying for "us" instead of only "me"?

You can write, draw, point, or tell someone your answer.

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Matthew 6:5-13

A LITTLE FAITH, EVERY DAY

> Jesus invites us to pray to our Father with trust and honesty.

Open the Bible together

Read Matthew 6:5-13. Let your child retell one part. Write down a question to ask a trusted church leader; you do not need to have all the answers.

Start a conversation

What does Jesus teach us about the way God welcomes prayer?

Try this during the week

Read the Lord's Prayer together. Pause at one line and let your child explain it in ordinary words.

A prayer to share

Father, we honor you. Help us follow your way, receive what we need, and forgive as we are forgiven.

Remember together

Look up Matthew 6:9 in your family Bible. Read a short phrase, repeat it together, and ask what it means.

Keep it simple and welcoming

A few unhurried minutes are enough. Children may respond with words, drawings, or gestures. Prayer is an invitation; quiet participation belongs too.

This curriculum serves mixed groups in grades 1-5 in an evangelical setting. Retellings and prayers are original. NIV is our reference translation; use your church's preferred Bible translation. No extended Bible text is reproduced.