

*Our father, who art in Heaven,
Hallowed be thy name;
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done.
On earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
And forgive 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.*

"The Lord's Prayer"

Matthew 6:5-15



- Jesus actually used a word for Father that could be translated "papa," or "daddy." How did you address your parents or grandparents growing up?
- Here are some of the meanings of the "names of God" that were used by God's people in the Bible. Which of these speak to you?
 - Abba: Daddy or papa
 - El Shaddai: Mountain one / God all-sufficient
 - Adonai: Lord
 - Elohim: Creator God
 - Yahweh: I am
 - El Elyon: Most High
- "Hallowed" means holy, sacred, or set apart. What does it mean to you that God is "separate" from us?
 - God is beyond our understanding
 - God is mighty and powerful
 - We should "fear" God
 - We can't bridge the gap between heaven and earth without heavenly intervention
 - God is unlimited and unconditional love
 - God is pure
 - God is full of hope and possibilities
 - God is in control
 - Other
- How can God's kingdom be alive in our lives? How can we be beacons of God's love?
 - We can be humble in spirit
 - We can be faithful and obedient
 - We can lead others to the Lord
 - We can serve others
 - We can be forgiving and understanding
 - Other
- We have worked hard to provide for our families. What does it mean to ask God to provide daily bread?
 - Without God's providential love, we wouldn't have the opportunity to earn our way.
 - Everything belongs to God anyway
 - We never know what twists and turns life will take, so we need God's care
 - God helps those who help themselves
 - We should just sit back and let God take care of us.
 - We need to be nourished and nurtured spiritually, not only physically.
 - Other
- When have you really needed God to provide?
 - A financial crisis
 - A time of despair or depression
 - Feelings of loneliness or isolation
 - The loss of a loved one
 - An illness or physical infirmity
 - When you've felt that you failed or let someone down
 - When you've been hurt
 - Other
- The Lord's prayer implies that our sins aren't forgiven if we cannot forgive the sins of others.
 - ✓ Can we accept forgiveness if we cannot grant it?
 - ✓ What if someone who needs our forgiveness isn't available to forgive or willing to accept it?
 - ✓ Can we forgive if we don't "forget?"
- The New Testament uses the words "sin," "debt," and "trespass" almost interchangeably. What nuances do these words suggest to you?
- Have you ever felt tested by God?
 - An opportunity to cheat
 - Improper financial gain
 - The chance to stand up for your faith in a difficult situation
 - Witnessing improper behavior, or someone being mistreated
 - Getting away with something that "no one would ever know"
 - The urge to lie or cover up
 - An opportunity to serve God or others, but in trying circumstances
 - The temptation to sleep in on Sunday
 - Other



"The Lord's Prayer"

Matthew 6:5-15

Contemporary English Version

6 When you pray, go into a room alone and close the door. Pray to your Father in private. He knows what is done in private, and he will reward you.

7 When you pray, don't talk on and on as people do who don't know God. They think God likes to hear long prayers.

8 Don't be like them. Your Father knows what you need before you ask.

9 You should pray like this: Our Father in heaven, help us to honor your name.

10 Come and set up your kingdom, so that everyone on earth will obey you, as you are obeyed in heaven.

11 Give us our food for today.

12 Forgive us for doing wrong, as we forgive others.

13 Keep us from being tempted and protect us from evil.

14 If you forgive others for the wrongs they do to you, your Father in heaven will forgive you.

15 But if you don't forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.

King James Version

6 But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

7 But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.

8 Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.

9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

10 Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

11 Give us this day our daily bread.

12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

14 For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:

15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.