

Lord, Teach Us To Pray

Scope and Sequence



- Target Grade: 1st–Adult
- Intended Use: Intergenerational
- Lessons: 13
- ESV

The purpose of prayer is not to change God, but to change the person praying. Through prayer, God reveals our sinful hearts, makes His will known, discloses His Kingdom purposes, and reveals Himself to His children. True prayer is getting to know God better. *Lord, Teach Us To Pray* is an intergenerational study on prayer. When Jesus responded to the disciples' request to teach them to pray, He gave them the Lord's Prayer as a model. In it, Jesus shows us what should be in the believer's heart when he comes to his Heavenly Father in prayer. *Lord, Teach Us To Pray* is not about the correct formula for prayer—it's about God's children learning to fellowship with Him in prayer.

Lesson 1: Lord, Teach Us To Pray

Elijah and the Prophets of Baal (1 Kings 18)

The curriculum begins by showing students that prayer isn't learned naturally; we need to be taught how to pray. The Bible shows that the prayers of ordinary Christians are answered. Believers need a heart that wants to learn to pray; only God can give us this heart.

Key Verse: Psalm 34:15

Lesson 2: The Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6)

This lesson teaches that the Lord's Prayer shows us what the condition of the heart should be when we come to God in prayer. It is important that our hearts are right when we come to God in prayer. We should want what God wants. The lesson teaches that prayer is spending time with God. True prayer seeks God. Families will learn that prayer isn't making God aware of our needs, since God knows our needs. Rather, telling God our needs in prayer is a way of expressing our trust in Him and dependence on Him.

Key Verse: Psalm 19:14

Lesson 3: Our Father

Various Passages

Because of the work of Jesus on the cross, Christians are able to approach God in prayer. The lesson emphasizes that God is a Father who welcomes, loves, and responds to His children. He is not far away, impersonal, or disinterested. The lesson also reminds students that Christians are part of the family of God and should pray for one another.

Key Verses: Galatians 4:4-5

Lesson 4: In Heaven

Nathan Rebukes David (2 Samuel 12)

Students will be reminded that God is omnipresent, omnipotent, omniscient, and eternal. He is the King and has the right to rule. His children should respect how He chooses to answer prayer. The lesson teaches that God always answers prayer, but His answer may be “yes,” “no,” or “wait.” The comforting truth is that God knows and cares for every detail of our lives.

Key Verse: Psalm 115:3

Lesson 5: Hallowed Be Your Name

John the Baptist Exalts Christ (John 3)

God and His purposes should be the focus of the prayers of His children. In other words, prayer should be GOD-centered, not ME-centered. This lesson challenges students by reminding them that everything a Christian does, says, or thinks should bring honor to God’s name.

Key Verse: Psalm 115:1

Lesson 6: Your Kingdom Come

Jesus Heals a Woman (Mark 5)

This lesson demonstrates that if we love the world instead of the Kingdom of God, we will not long for Jesus’ return. Praying “Your kingdom come” is a commitment to being part of God’s work of building His Kingdom in this world.

Key Verses: 1 John 2:15; Matthew 6:20-21

Lesson 7: Your Will Be Done

Jesus Prays in Gethsemane (Matthew 26)

The prayer “Your will be done” reflects a heart attitude that wants to submit willingly to what God ordains. Families will learn that true prayer is not attempting to manipulate God. It is learning to submit to God’s desires.

Key Verse: Psalm 40:8

Lesson 8: Our Daily Bread

Do Not Be Anxious (Matthew 6)

God needs nothing, and all good gifts come from Him. This lesson teaches that God is generous. He delights in taking care of the needs of His children. When Christians bring their needs to God, it should be with hearts of gratitude and faith.

Key Verse: Matthew 6:33

Lesson 9: Forgive Us

Parable of the Unforgiving Servant (Matthew 18)

Sin separates man from God and prevents answers to prayer. Students will be reminded that God’s children are sinful and need to repent daily. The lesson also teaches that people who recognize their sin and experience God’s grace will respond with forgiveness to those who sin against them. The willingness to forgive others is the mark of a person who recognizes that he has been forgiven by God.

Key Verse: Matthew 6:14

Lesson 10: Deliver Us From Evil

Jesus Foretells Peter's Denial (Mark 14)

Students are taught in this lesson that “deliver us from evil” is the attitude of the person who recognizes his own weakness and acknowledges his dependency on God. This lesson also engages families in a discussion from Romans 7 on the battle between redeemed heart's desires and our sin nature.

Key Verse: Mark 14:38

Lesson 11: Heart Problems

Marks of the True Christian (Romans 12)

God promises to answer the prayers of His children. However, students will discover in the Bible several examples of heart issues that hinder our prayer lives including lack of desire, wrong motives, insincerity, pride, unkindness, selfishness, and not trusting in Jesus. God does not promise to answer the prayers of non-Christians. But He does respond in mercy to the prayers of repentance and faith.

Key Verse: Psalm 66:18

Lesson 12: Work At It

Trust in the Lord with All Your Heart (Proverbs 3)

This lesson teaches that the ministry of prayer is often a hidden ministry, and it is hard work. Families will learn that having a plan for prayer is helpful and that using Scripture to pray helps us to know God's purposes and how to pray for them.

Key Verse: 1 Thessalonians 5:17

Lesson 13: With All Your Heart

The Parable of the Persistent Widow (Luke 18)

Believers Pray for Boldness (Acts 4)

As the curriculum ends, this lesson challenges families to pray earnestly, with all their hearts, and to pray with perseverance. Students will study some biblical examples of those who prayed earnestly and with perseverance, as well as post-biblical figures including Augustine and George Mueller.

Key Verse: Psalm 116:1

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