

STORIES WITHIN THE TRUE STORY



Week Twenty Five - The Lord's Prayer

A Note to the Parents/Teachers

Jesus often prayed to the Father. He also taught his disciples how they should pray to the Father. This prayer we have recorded from Jesus is not a script for us to follow religiously, but a model or an example of the posture we are to have when we approach God. It is intimate ('Our Father'), it is needy ('Give us our daily bread'), and it is exalting and Kingdom minded ('hallowed be your name, your Kingdom come, your will be done').

- **Big Idea:** We can come to God! And when we do, He will bring us into the Kingdom.

Starter

- **Evidences of Grace**

Ask kids to share ways they've seen God at work lately. Anything, big or small, which is good is from God. When a kid shares, encourage everyone to thank God together.

- **Ask**

Have you ever been to a wedding? What was your favorite part? In Jewish weddings wine used to be an important part. Not because they drank too much, but because wine reminded them how God provided for them by causing the vine to grow. Today's story will talk about wine at a wedding.

Sing Together

Story - from Matthew 6

As Jesus was teaching his disciples and the crowd that had gathered, he shared many things with them about what life is supposed to be like in God's kingdom. He taught them about recognizing our need for God's salvation, trusting God's ways, obeying God's commands, and loving people - even our enemies! He also taught them to give to people in need, but not to do any of these things so that other people would see how great you are. No way. Do these things even in the quiet when no-one is looking. Do these things out of a sincere heart. Do them because God loves you, not to make people love you.

Then, he taught people how to pray. He said, *"When you pray, don't do that for show either. Some people pray loudly for others to hear and be impressed with them. Others keep babbling on and on to make sure God hears them. You don't have to do that! Come before God, your Father, knowing He hears you. Pray like this:*

***Our Father in heaven,
may your name be honored as holy.
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive our wrongs,
as we also have forgiven those who wrong us.
And do not bring us into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one."***

Jesus didn't necessarily mean that we needed to pray those exact words every time we pray, but that he wanted us to have that posture when we come to God.

- Jesus is God's own Son, but in Jesus we can also call God 'Our Father'.
- God is holy and should be honored throughout all the universe.
- His kingdom was meant to reign over all the earth, but our rebellion has broken that. We want to be people who long for God's kingdom to rule again, here and now and in all places.
- We long for heaven and earth to be reunited - and us reunited with God.
- We need God to provide for needs every day. We can't live without Him.
- We need God to be gracious with us and forgive our selfish sin. And because He forgives us, we need to be people who can forgive others when they wrong us.
- And we need God to lead us and guide us into His ways, because without Him it's like we're wandering in the dark, not knowing what is right.

[Dialogue Questions - you may use some or all]

- If Jesus says God is 'Our Father', what does that make us?
[Family! We are brothers and sisters with Jesus and with one another]
- What do you think it means for God to be honored as holy and for His kingdom to come?
- What are some of the needs you have that God can take care of?
- Our greatest need is for God to forgive us! Why is it important for us to also forgive others?

Breakout Time

- **Prayer:**

Take some time to pray the Lord's Prayer together.

Our Father in heaven,

may your name be honored as holy.

Your kingdom come,

Your will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

And forgive our wrongs,

as we also have forgiven those who wrong us.

And do not bring us into temptation,

but deliver us from the evil one.

- **Craft:**

- Kids can color the sheet attached, cut them out, and glue them to the card tags provided. The tags have holes and can then be looped together with the colored plastic binder rings provided. The end result will be a key ring with prayer tags for each part of the Lord's Prayer.

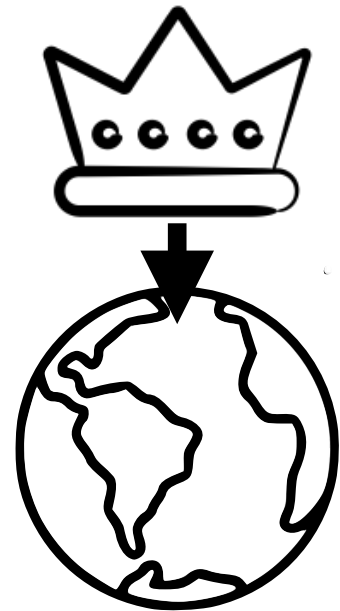
- **BLESS Activity:** **For kids to do during the week**

Because this Story is true, we want to be faithful to live in it. We ask Spirit to help us Bless, Listen, Eat, Speak, and Sabbath (rest & celebrate) in ways that tell the good news of God's Story.

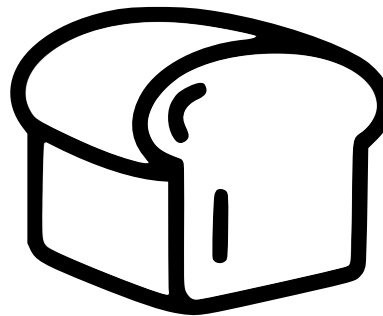
This week, focus on the **Bless** rhythm. Pray about who you can feed this week to help provide their 'daily bread'. Pray also about who you may need to offer forgiveness to.



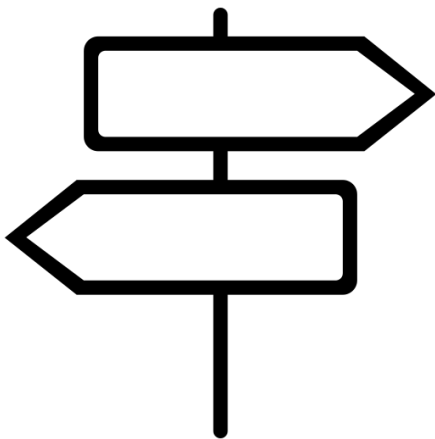
Our Father in heaven,
may Your name be honored as holy



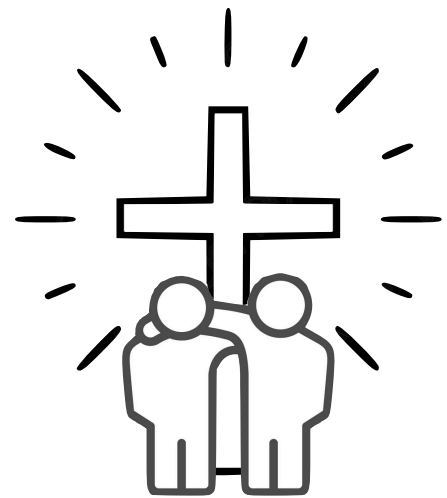
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven



Give us today
our daily bread



Lead us away from temptation
and deliver us from evil



Forgive our wrongs,
as we forgive others