

**EARLY ELEMENTARY**

**LEADER GUIDE  
SUMMER 2024**



**GODS  
WORD**  
FOR LIFE  
**kids**

# GOD'S WORD



FOR LIFE

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Early Elementary Leader Guide

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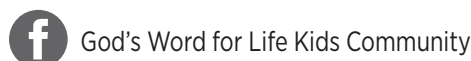
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\* HS stands for Heritage Sunday

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# FAQS ABOUT GOD'S WORD FOR LIFE

## Is there a Family devotional for Early Elementary students?

Family devotional activities are now included as part of the Early Elementary Devotional and Activity Pages. For each lesson, in addition to two pages of learning activities, this resource also includes two pages of daily devotions to be completed at home as a family. To promote discipleship in the home, send each student home with all four pages (two pages front and back) at the end of each lesson. Then encourage families to revisit the lesson throughout the week with these daily discussions.

## How should I use this curriculum for a smaller church or a smaller class size?

Every option and idea can be tailored by you to fit your specific resources and teaching methods. If you only have a few students, some ideas intended for larger groups should not be considered for your lesson plan. Other ideas, though, even if written for a larger group, can be creatively adapted for use in smaller class sizes.

To filter out excess activities, consider using the Easy Lesson Planner [DR](#) to develop an outline focusing only on the options you plan to use. If you feel overwhelmed by the amount of material in the Leader Guide, consider buying the digital version and then working from the Microsoft Word documents provided. This allows you to edit and delete activities to specifically meet your classroom's needs.

For Bible stories calling for multiple actors, consider using dolls or action figures to act out the story. Assign certain figures to students and let them help you tell the story. After the Bible lesson, let students retell the story using the figures.

## How should I use this curriculum if I have forty-five minutes or less to teach?

For teachers with shorter teaching times, here is an example of how to assemble an effective lesson plan.

- Be prepared. Do all prep work before class, including developing a lesson plan, allotting time to each section.
- *5 minutes:* Connect with students, get their attention, and go. Use an intro video, lesson-oriented discussion, or action song to engage students and to introduce the Truth about God (TAG). Have a helper take attendance and collect offering as a primary teacher engages students. This section should take no more than five minutes at the beginning of the teaching time.
- *10 minutes:* Once you have students' attention, immediately enter into an Opening Option. Choose one activity or meld the activities that will resonate with your students, but take only ten minutes or less. Your goal in this time is to further expound on the TAG while gaining momentum toward telling the Bible story.
- *15 minutes:* Keeping tight control of the discussion, use the Lesson Lead-In to transition to the Bible Lesson. Knowing you have limited time, these two parts of the lesson should be well rehearsed and take no longer than fifteen minutes.
- *12 minutes:* With the Bible story told, apply the lesson using an Application Option. Choose one activity or meld the activities. Your goal is to lead students into God's presence so they can evaluate how this Bible story should impact their lives moving forward.
- *3 minutes:* At the end of every teaching session, be intentional about helping students find time for personal reflection at an altar of prayer.

The Leader Guide intentionally provides a lot of options. You will not be able to do all the activities. Use the available possibilities to construct the best possible lesson with your students, resources, teaching methods, and teaching time in mind. To help you in this process, see the Easy Lesson Planner [DR](#).

## What is a whole-church curriculum?

God's Word for Life is a discipleship program intended to lead the entire church from toddlers to adults into God's presence and His Word for lifelong transformation. The adult, youth, and children's levels all start from the same biblical text but then have different age-appropriate applications. Daily devotionals for every age level equip the church to study Scripture daily.

If your entire church has not bought in to the God's Word for Life program, this Early Elementary curriculum can still be used on its own.

## LEGEND

<b>DR</b> Digital Resource in Resource Kit	<b>RK</b> Resource Kit
<b>LG</b> Leader Guide	<b>QL</b> Video Quick Links document
<b>MW</b> Memory Work	<b>TAG</b> Truth about God
	<b>TML</b> Truth for My Life

### How do I purchase and download my digital resources?

The Leader Guide can be purchased in print or digital versions separately for \$9.99, or together for \$12.99. The digital version comes with a PDF of the guide, as well as a Microsoft Word document for each lesson.

The Early Elementary Devotional and Activity Pages can be purchased as a print or digital version for \$5.49. The digital version comes with a PDF of the resource.

For the Resource Kit (\$29.99), the kit's digital material **DR** is included with your purchase of the print version. It includes access to videos, sound effects, handouts, and many more resources. If you are not accessing the digital materials provided with your Resource Kit, you are missing out on a ton of valuable materials.

After purchasing your materials, download your digital resources using one of the following options:

- *Option 1:* If you purchase online, download your digital resources immediately from the order confirmation screen.
- *Option 2:* An email is sent to the purchaser with a link to the purchased digital content. This email can be forwarded to any teachers who will be using the purchased materials.
- *Option 3:* Provide teachers with access (email and password) to the purchaser's account on the PPH website. On the website, go to "Your Account" and click the appropriate links in the Order History.
- *Option 4:* To access the Resource Kit's digital resources, in addition to the three options above, a download code is provided on the kit's cover sheet. To use this code, visit <https://pentecostalpublishing.com/downloads> and follow the instructions.

### How do I access the videos marked with a **QL** in the lesson?

In the lessons, a **QL** icon means a clickable hyperlink is provided in a Video Quick Links document for easy access. Please note that videos are not essential to the lessons but are provided as a fun way to interact with students. We understand some classrooms may not have the technology available to show videos. The Leader Guide provides plenty of content to teach a lesson without showing videos.

After purchasing a Resource Kit and then downloading the digital resources (see instructions above), one of the first files is the Video Quick Links PDF that is specific to the Early Elementary level. Simply open the Video Quick Links document, find the video referenced in the lesson, and click on the icon below the title. If you have internet access, your electronic device should take you to the appropriate web page.

Videos on **vimeo** are produced for God's Word for Life by Pentecostal Resources Group. If your classroom has internet access, Vimeo videos can be livestreamed without fear of commercial interference or uncomfortable video suggestions. Your purchase of the Resource Kit gives you rights to download this Vimeo material. If you prefer to download these videos:

1. Use the Video Quick Links document to go to the Vimeo page.
2. Select the title of the video you want to download.
3. An option to Download or Share the video should appear at the bottom of the screen.

When the Video Quick Links document sends you to websites other than Vimeo (e.g., YouTube, Pinterest), this material was not produced for God's Word for Life but could be fun or helpful in teaching the lesson. Given the transient nature of online publications, it is possible a web address may no longer be active or may have been altered since the print date of this publication. Teachers and leaders should review the terms of service of any website before using it.

# FAQS ABOUT GOD'S WORD FOR LIFE

## Does God's Word for Life have a Facebook group for teachers?

Yes, join our Facebook group:

### God's Word for Life Kids Community

Interact with editors and over 5,000 teachers across all levels. Get decorating ideas, post pictures of your class, and share what God is doing in your church.

Facebook: God's Word for Life Kids Community



## How do I know which level of God's Word for Life to use for my students?

For children, God's Word for Life is broken down into five levels: Little Learners, Kindergarten, Early Elementary, Late Elementary, and MOVE! kids' church. While a recommended age is provided, each level is distinguished by the style of teaching. For children ages 5-12, the relevant levels include the following:

- **Kindergarten** is for children currently in preschool or kindergarten. These children have been introduced to a classroom setting, but they still require large amounts of playtime. This level's content is a mix of being student- and teacher-driven.
- **Early Elementary** is for children who have entered elementary school. Because these students' thinking skills are still largely concrete and literal, the Truth for My Life applications focus on the here and now, with some introduction to abstract thinking. The content is teacher-driven, with a focus on hands-on activities, games, and object lessons.
- **Late Elementary** is for older elementary students who will eventually be transitioning into youth level. As children mature, they develop the ability to think abstractly and comprehend deeper meanings. In this level, the content is teacher-driven, with a focus on discussion and hands-on application.
- **MOVE!** is written for classes containing a wide range of ages from 5-12. If your church places all children in one classroom or gymnasium, small or large, MOVE! is designed for you.

If your students are younger (grades 1-3), but they do not seem challenged by the material being covered in Early Elementary and are able to grasp deeper concepts, consider switching to Late Elementary. If your students are older (grades 4-6), but they do not seem to be grasping the deeper concepts of the Late Elementary material, consider switching to Early Elementary. If you have a wide range of ages, consider the MOVE! kids' church curriculum.

## What resources do I need to teach Early Elementary level?

- **Leader Guide (LG):** This 112-page guide provides the lesson content for leaders and teachers to present in Sunday school, home school, or any teaching environment. The LG is available in both print and digital formats.
- **Devotional and Activity Pages:** For each lesson, every student needs an activity page. Each lesson's two pages of activities can be done during class time or at home. In addition, each lesson has a two-page *God's Word for Families* devotional to send home with students. The Early Elementary Devotional and Activity Pages are available in both print and digital formats.
- **Resource Kit (RK):** This packet provides essential supplements to make the lesson come alive. Some lessons require materials only found in the Resource Kit. It is also available in both print and digital formats.

## What does DR mean in the lesson?

A **DR** icon means this item is provided as a digital resource in the Resource Kit. To access this material, a Resource Kit must be purchased separately from the Leader Guide, and then the digital resources must be downloaded. The downloads come as zipped files that require a computer. (Smartphones [and some tablets] cannot open zipped folders without specialized apps.) To download the **DR** material, follow the instructions above.

The digital resources **DR** include a variety of tools to help bring your lesson to life.

## Does God’s Word for Life have classroom décor ideas?



Yes. This quarter provides ideas for a God’s Army theme. Look for a digital document in the Resource Kit called “Classroom Decor Ideas” **DR**. It provides ideas to decorate your classroom.

Facebook



On Facebook, search for and share your decorating ideas in our group: **God’s Word for Life Kids Community**.

Pinterest

To find the Pinterest page, type “<https://www.pinterest.com/GodsWordforLife/>” (or scan the QR code) to find a page pinned with God’s Army ideas, snacks, and activities.

Please note: If you decorate, look for creative ways to tie the theme to the lesson content. Because not all teachers decorate, decor ideas are not mentioned in the lessons of the Leader Guide. At the end of the “Classroom Decor Ideas” **DR** document are suggestions to tie the theme to each lesson.

Every teaching situation is different. While some teaching teams entirely transform their classroom or teaching wing with each quarterly theme, others can only decorate a few bulletin boards, and others need decor that can be put up and taken back down each week. Every teacher has a different style, budget, and need. This curriculum is adaptable for every situation.

## What does God’s Word for Life do to help teachers with students who have special needs?

In conjunction with ABLE Ministry, the digital resources of the Resource Kit for the Kindergarten, Early Elementary, Late Elementary, and MOVE! kids’ church levels provide a special needs supplement to the Leader Guide (LG). Teachers can use this document alongside the LG.

In addition, the digital resources of the Resource Kit provide a Spiritual IEP **DR** that has been developed by ABLE Ministry. By working with parents and caregivers to fill out this informational form, teachers can better understand some challenges their students face. This information helps ensure each child receives an appropriate amount of assistance and that the correct accommodations are in place in your classroom.

If you have questions regarding a specific disability or teaching challenge, join the ABLE Ministry UPCI Facebook page to network with Apostolic parents and teachers who specialize in ministering to children with special needs.



**ABLE Ministry  
on Facebook**



## What is Junior Bible Quizzing?

God’s Word for Life is pleased to partner with UPCI Children’s Ministries to present Junior Bible Quizzing options. The area of study for 2023–24 is the Book of Acts. The Resource Kit’s digital resources provides you with three JBQ documents:

- **JBQ Games:** This document provides Bible-quizzing game ideas to play with students.
- **JBQ Quizzes:** This document provides questions to ask during the games. Quiz 1 corresponds with the first set of verses. The content and format of these questions is provided by Terry Marshall, the JBQ Director.
- **JBQ Verses:** Select and print the JBQ Verses **DR** you want your students to study. Once you feel they have mastered the assigned verses, send home a new set of JBQ Verses.

For more information on Junior Bible Quizzing, visit the website: [www.najbq.com](http://www.najbq.com).



# 11

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Matthew 6:5-15*

### SERIES AIM

To study examples from Jesus' prayers for guidance on how to pray.

### SERIES MEMORY VERSE

#### **Philippians 4:6**

"In every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."

### BIBLE LESSON VERSE

#### **Matthew 6:6**

"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."



#### **TRUTH ABOUT GOD**

Jesus desires sincere, heartfelt prayer.

#### **TRUTH FOR MY LIFE**

I will find a quiet place to pray every day.

## TEACHER DEVOTIONAL

Looking for classroom decor ideas? See the Classroom Decor Ideas [DB](#) provided in your digital resources. See page 4.

*Read Matthew 6:5-15. Prayerfully consider what these verses say:*

### **ABOUT GOD**

The Lord's Prayer is an overview of how we should pray. It covers the three basic elements of prayer: praise, pardon, and petition. First person singular pronouns (*I, me, my, and mine*) are not included. Instead we find *us* and *our*.

### **TO YOU AS A TEACHER**

In Luke 11, when the disciples heard Jesus' prayer, it ignited their desire to pray. Jesus understood the power of an example. That is what the Lord's Prayer is. He could have said, "Everyone should pray" and then hoped for us to figure out how to do it. Instead, He said, "When you pray, pray like this," providing an example of how to pray. Does your passion for prayer ignite your students' desire to pray?

### **TO YOUR STUDENTS**

Just as Jesus modeled prayer for His disciples, we should model prayer for the disciples He has placed in our care. Show students how a relationship with God starts by talking to Him. He is always willing to listen, so they can tell Him and ask Him for anything. Having a pattern or example of prayer to emulate makes it easier for students to practice on their own. Incorporate different ways to pray into your class prayer time on a regular basis.



## SUPPLIES

### EXCITE AND ENGAGE

#### Connect

- Prayer area with pillows or chairs
- My Hope Radio's prayer station **QL**
- Attendance poster **RKDR** and stickers, Series 1 MW poster **RKDR**

#### Video Introduction

- "A Fun Song about Prayer" **QL**
- "This 3-Year-Old Leading a Lunch Prayer at School Will Melt Your Heart" **QL**

#### Opener

- Posterboard heart, marker

#### Opening Option 1

- Puppet or stuffed animal

#### Opening Option 2

- Prayer area from Connect

### RELATE AND RECEIVE

#### Lesson Lead-In

- No supplies necessary

#### Bible Lesson

- Prayer Pictures **RKDR**, Bibles

### APPLY AND ACT

- No supplies necessary

#### Application Option 1

- No supplies necessary

#### Application Option 2

- No supplies necessary

#### Prayer and Response

- Prayer Pictures **RKDR**
- *Per student:* Early Elementary Devotional and Activity Page

## EXCITE AND ENGAGE

### Connect

#### Preparation

- Set up a prayer area in the room with chairs to kneel at or pillows to kneel on.
- Establish a peaceful atmosphere that encourages prayer as students arrive. Perhaps dim the lights and play instrumental worship music, such as My Hope Radio's prayer station **QL**.

#### Instruction

- As students arrive, invite them to kneel and pray in the prayer area.
- Record attendance and collect offering.
- Using the Series 1 MW poster **RKDR**, introduce Philippians 4:6.
  - » Point out the words *prayer* and *thanksgiving*.
  - » Talk about how we pray and give thanks to God.
- Introduce the TAG: "Jesus desires sincere, heartfelt prayer."
  - » Explain how Jesus loves to hear us pray.

*Application:* Prayer is our connection with Jesus. He loves to talk with us. When we spend time with Him, He desires our prayer to be sincere and heartfelt. Today we will learn how Jesus wants us to pray.

### Video Introduction

- When it is time to get students' attention, introduce prayer by using one of these short videos:
  - » "A Fun Song about Prayer" by Minno **QL**
  - » "This 3-Year-Old Leading a Lunch Prayer at School Will Melt Your Heart" by 6ABC Philadelphia **QL**.

Ready to network with Apostolic teachers from around the world? Join the God's Word for Life Kids Community on Facebook. For more info, see page 4.

To learn how to access the videos mentioned in the curriculum, see page 3.

**Opener: Share Your Heart***Preparation*

- Cut out a large posterboard heart.
  - » On the heart, use a marker to write these words in large letters: HURTS, PROBLEMS, CONCERNS, LOVES, and THANKSGIVING.
  - » Fold the heart so the words are not visible.

*Instruction*

- Display the folded heart.
  - » *Say:* When we pray, we share what is inside our hearts—our inner feelings.
- *Ask:* What are some things that might be in our hearts?
- *Say:* What is in our hearts cannot be seen by others. Sometimes we have things in our hearts that no one knows about.
- Open the heart to read and discuss the words.

*Application:* Our hearts contain all our feelings. In our hearts, Jesus will find our hurts, our problems, our concerns, the things we love, and the things we are thankful for. Because He is God, Jesus knows these things are in us. These are the things Jesus wants us to share with Him through our prayers.

For additional Opening Options that use different teaching styles, see page 11:

- Option 1: How Not to Pray
- Option 2: How to Pray

**RELATE AND RECEIVE****Bible Lesson Verse**

“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” (Matthew 6:6).

**Lesson Lead-In***Instruction*

- *Ask:* Who is someone you really enjoy talking with?
  - » Why do you love to talk to this person?
  - » How does this person make you feel?
  - » When you talk to this person, do you spend more time talking or listening?
- Give your own example.

*Application:* Talking with Jesus is just like talking with a best friend or relative. You can share anything with Him. You can pray by talking aloud or whispering.

**Bible Lesson: The Lord’s Prayer (Matthew 6:5–15)***Preparation*

- Cut apart the Prayer Pictures **RKDR** and place them around the room so they can be found easily.

*Instruction*

- Have students open their Bibles to Matthew 6. They will be asked to read or follow along during the Bible lesson.

If you are not accessing your digital resources, you are missing out. To learn how to download the digital resources **DR**, see page 4.

*Truth for My Life: I will find a quiet place to pray every day.*

In Matthew 5, a large group of people followed Jesus up a mountainside. He used the opportunity to sit down with them and to teach them a message called the Sermon on the Mount. Matthew 5–7 contains the things Jesus taught to the people. In Matthew 6, Jesus taught them how to pray.

Jesus gave us this prayer as an example, showing us the things we should pray for. Around the room, you will find ten pictures that are going to help us during today's Bible lesson. *Let students find the pictures and return to their seats. Depending on your class size, some students may have more than one picture.*

*Call for picture 1—eye. Read Matthew 6:5.* Jesus said we should not pray so other people will see us praying. Our focus should be solely on God.

*Call for picture 2—heart. Read Matthew 6:6.* Jesus did not mean we must literally shut ourselves in a closet. He meant we should find a place to pray where people will not distract us. Jesus wants our prayers to be serious, heartfelt, and focused on Him. Prayer is not a game or something we do to check off a box so we can get on with life. When we pray, we should take it seriously and share with God what is in our hearts.

*Call for picture 3—light bulb. Read Matthew 6:7–8.* When we pray, we do not impress God with big words and fancy presentations. We should keep our prayers simple and humble. God knows everything. In fact, He knows what we are going to pray before we pray, as if He shone a light into our hearts. We should share everything with Him.

*Call for picture 4—lifted hands. Read Matthew 6:9.* When we pray, our hands and hearts should be lifted to God in praise and worship. Our prayers are meant to bring glory to God.

*Call for picture 5—earth and clouds. Read Matthew 6:10.* When we feel God's presence, we are experiencing Heaven touching earth. During prayer, we need to ask for God's will to be done on earth, just as it is in Heaven.

*Call for picture 6—bread. Read Matthew 6:11.* When we pray, we should trust God to provide for our needs. Jesus said to pray each day for our daily bread.

*Call for picture 7—hands being washed. Read Matthew 6:12.* When we pray, we should repent of our sins, asking God to forgive us and make us clean. After prayer, we should not have any sin left in our heart.

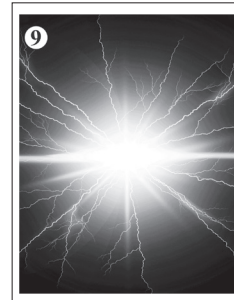
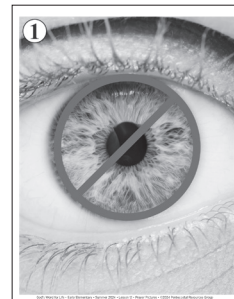
*Call for picture 8—"NO EVIL" sign. Read the first part of Matthew 6:13.* When we pray, we should ask God to help us stay away from evil. He will deliver us from evil and help us to make good choices.

*Call for picture 9—JESUS lightning. Read the second part of Matthew 6:13.* Heaven and earth belong to God. When we pray, we are asking to see His kingdom, His power, and His glory for ever and ever. Through Jesus, we have the promise of eternal life. Then we seal our prayer by saying, "In Jesus' name, amen."

*Read Matthew 6:14–15.* Jesus added one more very important point. If we cannot forgive, neither will He. When we forgive, He promises to forgive us.

#### Review Questions

- True or false? We should pray loudly for everyone to hear us. *False*
- True or false? When we pray, we should glorify and praise God. *True*
- True or false? We do not need to ask God for things we need each day because that is not important. *False*
- True or false? Each day, we must ask God to forgive us of our sins. *True*
- True or false? We do not need to worry about forgiving other people who hurt us. *False*





## APPLY AND ACT

---

### The When and Where of Prayer

#### *Instruction*

- *Say:* In Matthew 6, Jesus taught His followers how to pray. Verses 9–13 are known as the Lord’s Prayer. People like to remember these verses when they are troubled because they bring God’s peace.
  - » Read Matthew 6:9–13 again.
- *Ask:* Do you pray when you wake up in the morning?
  - » *Say:* Making God the first thing you think about each day is important.
- *Ask:* Do you pray at night before you go to bed?
  - » *Say:* Going over your day with God as the last thing you do is important for a good night’s rest.
- *Ask:* Do you pray at meals?
  - » *Say:* Yes, but your friends and family are hungry and ready to eat, so make these prayers of thanksgiving short and sweet.
- *Ask:* Throughout the day, when and where should we pray?
  - » *Say:* You can pray anytime and anywhere. Prayer is a choice you make. No one can stop you from praying. You decide when and where you will pray.
- *Ask:* Can you pray at school in the cafeteria? in a crowded building? in a loud place? in a quiet place?

*Application:* No matter where we are, God hears us and cares about what we are saying. We should not pray for others to see us, but for God to hear us. If possible, we should find a quiet place to pray. If others hear us, that is OK, as long as we know God hears us.

For additional Application Options that use different teaching styles, see page 11:

- Option 1: Places to Pray
- Option 2: Loud to Quiet

### Prayer and Response

#### *Instruction*

- Have students find a quiet place to pray.
  - » Thank Jesus for showing us how to pray.
  - » Using visuals 4–9 from the Prayer Pictures **RKDR**, let students remember what to pray for and then pray for that thing.
- Encourage students to find quiet times to pray in the morning, at night, and throughout the day.
- Send each student home with an Early Elementary Devotional and Activity Page.

*Truth for My Life: I will find a quiet place to pray every day.*

## OPENING OPTION 1

### How Not to Pray

#### Instruction

- Introduce a puppet or stuffed animal friend.
  - » *Say:* My friend is just learning to pray.
- Ask your puppet friend to show students how he prays.
- Make the puppet say things like, “Blah, blah, blah,” “Pray, pray, pray,” and “Hello God, hello God, hello God.” You can also make the puppet act silly and be unfocused.
  - » Guide students to inform the puppet his prayer needs some help.
  - » Let students demonstrate prayers.

**Application:** When we pray, we do not have to be fancy or use big words, but Jesus does want us to be serious. Jesus wants us to share what is in our hearts so He can help us.

## APPLICATION OPTION 1

### Places to Pray

#### Instruction

- Have students sit in a circle for this brainstorming activity.
- *Ask:* How many quiet places can you think of to pray?
  - » Go around the circle, challenging each student to share an answer not already shared. Provide guidance as needed.

**Application:** When possible, we should find a quiet place to pray. The places we can pray are limitless. We can literally pray anytime and anywhere. Prayer is a choice we make. No one can stop us from praying. No matter where we are, God hears us and cares about what we are saying. We should pray so God will hear us, not so others will see us. It is OK if others see or hear us, as long as that is not the reason we are praying.

## OPENING OPTION 2

### How to Pray

#### Instruction

- *Ask:* What is prayer? Do you pray at home? When do you pray?
  - » Encourage prayer during meals and bedtime, but also throughout the day.
- *Ask:* Can you show me how you pray?
  - » Using the prayer area from Connect, let students show how they pray.
- *Say:* When we pray, God wants us to find a quiet place where we can focus on our words to Him.
- To show there is not one right way to pray, demonstrate some ways other people pray, such as standing with arms raised, sitting, kneeling, bowing, and even lying down.

**Application:** Prayer is sharing with God what is in our hearts, just like I talk with you and you talk with me. As we talk to Jesus, we should thank and praise Him for being a good and faithful God. We can also share our hurts, problems, and concerns with Him. When we are done praying, there should be nothing left hidden or kept back from God. He wants to know everything we are feeling.

## APPLICATION OPTION 2

### Loud to Quiet

#### Instruction

- *Say:* I want you to be as loud as possible until I say, “Quiet.” Then you must be as quiet as possible.
  - » Repeat several times.
  - » On the final time, hold the silence. In a whisper, tell students to sit down quietly.
- *Whisper:* The world can be a wild, noisy, silly place. Jesus said when we pray, we need to go into a closet, which means we need to find a quiet place to be alone with Him and pray.
  - » *Ask:* Why do we need a quiet place to pray?
  - » *Ask:* In your house, where do you think that quiet place could be?
- *Say:* Sometimes we cannot get away from other people, so we just have to find a quiet place in our minds.
  - » Demonstrate how to block out the noises around you so you can think about praying to Jesus.

**Application:** Jesus wants our lives to be filled with prayer because He longs to talk with us. Even though we are together in this room, we can still find a quiet place to pray. By learning how to concentrate, we can be alone with Jesus just about anywhere. In our minds, we can find a quiet place to talk to Him.

*Truth about God: Jesus desires sincere, heartfelt prayer.*



## WORSHIP

**Supplies:** Video Quick Links document **DR**

### Instruction

- As you play “When We Pray” by Jonathan Butler **QL**, ask students to picture a quiet place to pray.
  - » *Say:* When we pray, our talks with God will change our lives and make them better.
  - » Direct students to raise their hands in worship, promising God they will spend more time each day talking to Him.
- “When I Pray” by David and Stephanie Hutton **QL**
- “The Lord’s Prayer (It’s Yours)” by Matt Maher **QL**
- “Prayer Closet” by Taylor Fish **QL**
- “Here on Earth (As in Heaven)” by First Church Worship **QL**
- “Our Father” by Ted Keith **QL**

## SNACK OPTION

### It’s Your Heart

**Supplies:** Heart-shaped cookies, napkins, drinks, cups

### Preparation

- Make or buy heart-shaped cookies.

### Instruction

- Give each student a heart-shaped cookie.
- *Ask:* How does the heart remind you of today’s lesson?

**Application:** Jesus desires sincere, heartfelt prayer. We should find a quiet place to share what is in our hearts every day.

**“In everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.”**

**—Philippians 4:6**

## MEMORY WORK

**Series 1 Memory Verse:** Philippians 4:6

**Supplies:** Paper, pencils, Series 1 MW poster **RKDR**

### Instruction

- Introduce Philippians 4:6, reading it together several times.
- Discuss the following key words and their meanings:
  - » *Everything* is what we should talk to God about—every single thing.
  - » *Prayer* is talking to God, in any way we want.
  - » *Supplication* is asking God for things we want or need.
  - » *Thanksgiving* is giving God thanks.
  - » *Requests* are the things we ask for. Supplication and requests are synonyms.
- Give each student paper and a pencil.
  - » Let students work individually or with a partner to draw a picture to go with one of the key words.
  - » Let students share their pictures and their words with the rest of the class.

**Application:** Through prayer, God wants us to talk to Him about everything.

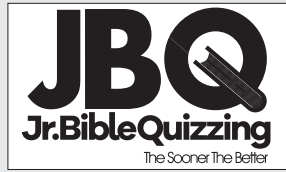
## VIDEO REVIEW

- To review the Bible lesson, show one of the following videos:
  - » “Learn the Lord’s Prayer” by Minno **QL**
  - » “Our Father Prayer” by EWTN **QL**
  - » “The Lord’s Prayer for Kids” by ShareFaith Kids **QL**



*Truth for My Life: I will find a quiet place to pray every day.*

## JBQ OPTION



### Preparation

- Select one of the JBQ Games **DR**. Some games require additional props.
- Locate the JBQ Quiz(zes) **DR** that correspond with the current set(s) of verses being studied.

### Instruction

- Distribute the current set of JBQ Verses **DR** to new students.
- Play the prepared game with students.
- If students have mastered the verses, send home a new set of JBQ Verses **DR**. Otherwise let them study the same set of verses again for next week.

## BIBLE SKILLS OPTION

### The Beatitudes

**Supplies:** Beatitudes poster **RKDR**

### Preparation

- For each student, print a copy of the Beatitudes poster **RKDR** to send home.

### Instruction

- Show the Beatitudes poster **RKDR**.
- *Ask:* Who wants to be blessed by Jesus?  
*Hopefully everyone raises a hand.*
- *Say:* In Matthew 5:3-12, Jesus told how to receive God's blessings.
- *Ask:* Do you remember which chapters from Matthew are called the Sermon on the Mount?  
*Chapters 5-7*
  - » Note how Matthew 5:3-12 is part of the Sermon on the Mount.
- On the Beatitudes poster, point out how verses 3-11 all start with the words, "Blessed are . . ."
  - » *Say:* The early church spoke Latin. In Latin, "blessed are" is translated *beati sunt*.
  - » This set of Bible verses is commonly referred to as the Beatitudes.
- Give each student a copy of the Beatitudes poster **RKDR** to take home.

**Application:** Throughout this quarter, we will learn the Beatitudes. The ways Jesus teaches us how to be blessed may surprise you.

## CRAFT OPTION

### My Prayer Place

**Supplies:** My Quiet Place door hanger **DR**, cardstock, markers, stickers, hole punch, yarn

### Preparation

- For each student, print a My Quiet Place door hanger **DR** onto cardstock.

### Instruction

- *Ask:* Do you have a quiet place at home where you can pray?
  - » Discuss why we need a quiet place to pray.
- Give each student a door hanger **DR** and art supplies to decorate it.
  - » Students decorate their door hanger to take home for their quiet place to pray.

**Application:** Jesus wants us to pray like He did. Use this door hanger at home to let your family know when you are praying in your quiet place.

## GAME OPTION

### Let's Take It to God in Prayer

**Supplies:** Posterboard heart, 4 bean bags, masking tape

### Preparation

- Cut out a large posterboard heart.
  - » Lay the heart flat on the floor.
- Tape off throwing lines at three feet, six feet, ten feet, and twenty feet from the heart.

### Instruction

- *Point to the heart and say:* In today's lesson, we learned to share what was in our hearts with God in prayer.
- Form teams.
- On their turn, students start at the closest throwing line and say, "in Jesus' name," and then try to toss a bean bag onto the heart.
  - » If unsuccessful, the turn is over.
  - » If successful, the team gets a point and the student moves to the next (farther) throwing line.
  - » On a turn, a student can earn up to four points for the team.

**Application:** We can take all the cares and concerns in our hearts to God in prayer.