



**ADULT LESSON GUIDE  
SUMMER 2024**

**JESUS TEACHES  
US TO PRAY**

After this manner  
therefore pray ye

**JOHN - I AM SAYINGS**

See Jesus as the I AM

**THE SPIRIT  
IN OUR LIVES**

The fruit and gifts  
of the Spirit

**GOD'S  
WORD**  
FOR LIFE

# GOD'S WORD



FOR LIFE

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# **GOD'S WORD**



**FOR LIFE**

**ADULT LESSON GUIDE  
SUMMER 2024**





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#### LESSON GUIDE

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# BIBLE LESSON

The Bible Lesson is a manuscript of the entire lesson. The lessons are written by various Apostolic authors who not only skillfully explain the truths of Scripture but also share ways we can apply these truths to our lives. The lesson contains discussion questions to stimulate thought and media callouts (videos and images available in the Adult Resource Kit) to connect with students of all learning styles.

## BIBLE LESSON

### I. IN THE BEGINNING

The Bible opens with immortal words in its most memorable opening: "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." The apostle John, who would have been well acquainted with the opening line from Genesis, echoed its refrain when he began his Gospel: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God" (John 1:1). He then added, "All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made" (John 1:3).

The writer of Hebrews expressed it this way in the opening of his letter:

*God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in times past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power; when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high. (Hebrews 1:1-3)*

God who spoke the universe into existence at the beginning of time has shared with us His message of grace and truth through the person of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh (John 1:14).

### A. The Logos

Much has been written about the concept of logos, a Greek term John used that most English translations render as "Word" in his book *The Oneness of God*. David K. Bernard noted, "In Greek usage, logos can mean the expression or plan as it exists in the mind of the proclaimer—as a play in the mind of a playwright—or it can mean the thought as uttered or otherwise physically expressed—as a play that is enacted on stage."

Before God created the world and everything in it—including humans—He knew we would eventually fall into sin and need a Savior. Consequently, God had a plan to redeem us through Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Jesus lived out that plan by dying on a cross for our sins and rising from the dead, thereby securing our deliverance and salvation. This logos or plan was in the mind of God from the beginning (John 1:2). As John later wrote in Revelation 13:8, Jesus Christ was "the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world."

### B. Creator and Giver of Life

John made it clear that the logos was not separate from God, but "the Word was God" (John 1:1)—the same God Genesis credits with creating the Heaven and the Earth. "All things were

**Teacher Option:**  
A supplemental image is available in the Resource Kit. 

## INTERNALIZING THE MESSAGE

Some ideas and concepts cannot be fully grasped unless we see them acted out in the real world. Evil is an abstract idea until we witness the horrors humans perpetrate on each other every day. This lesson began with a summary of how Adolph Hitler became the embodiment of evil in the modern world. Recent history includes many accounts of tyrants whose names have become synonymous with brutality, genocide, and oppression—Joseph Stalin, Mao Zedong, and Pol Pot.

Thankfully, there also have been many individuals who embodied noble values. If you hear the words *equality, justice, or civil rights*, the image of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. may immediately come to mind. Leaders such as George Washington and Abraham Lincoln illustrated the concepts of sacrifice, loyalty, devotion, and liberty to their countrymen. Lincoln's name became synonymous with emancipation thanks to his commitment to freeing enslaved people during the American Civil War. In more recent times, the Roman Catholic nun Mother Teresa became an international symbol of charity due to her selfless devotion to the poorest residents of Calcutta, India. We know what equality, liberty, freedom, and charity look like because we have seen these ideas lived out, albeit imperfectly, in others. Thankfully, most of us know someone personally who has shown us what love, kindness, compassion, faithfulness, and other virtues look like in daily life.

But when examined closely, all noteworthy personalities prove to be riddled with inconsistencies and flaws. Even biblical heroes such as Abraham, Moses, and David exhibited weaknesses and committed sins. God lives no human past or present could adequately represent His grace and truth, so He was manifested in flesh (1 Timothy 3:16). He alone lived a perfect life. Hebrews 4:15 says He was "in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin." When we look to Jesus, we see all the characteristics of God perfectly demonstrated in human form.

For this reason, John could write, "No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him" (John 1:18). When Philip said, "Lord, shew us the Father," Jesus responded, "Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father" (John 14:9-10).

Even the best among us demonstrate inconsistencies and flaws. When we find ourselves disappointed by the failures of others, however, we can look to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith" (Hebrews 12:2, ESV). He will lift us when we fail, strengthen us when we are weak, and give us "power to become the sons of God" (John 1:12) through baptism in His name and the infilling and indwelling of His Holy Spirit.

### Prayer Focus

Lead the group in prayer and consider the following topics of focus:

- To speak life to others
- To show grace to others

15

# INTERNALIZING THE MESSAGE

The end of each lesson will offer a final call to action to apply the lesson's content. The goal of each lesson is not just to share biblical information, but also to show what must be done with the information, challenging students to apply God's Word to their lives. You are encouraged to use the Prayer Focus to end the lesson with a time of consecration.

## LEGEND

The following icons and boxes are used to aid leaders in navigating the content.

Contains a suggested discussion question

Gives direction regarding an available media callout



Signals the information can be used in a Small Group setting.



Shows a video component is available to help illustrate the lesson information.



Indicates an image is available to help illustrate the lesson information.

## LEARNING AND LIVING OUT GOD'S WORD FOR LIFE

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Join podcast host LJ Harry on the God's Word for Life companion podcast every week. Each episode complements the God's Word for Life Lesson Guide, Daily Devotional Guide, and the Small Group Guide as we think deeply about how God's Word impacts our lives. The podcast is a great tool for families and groups to listen to and discuss what we are learning from God's Word. The podcast shares stories and passages in Scripture with fresh insights to encourage followers of Jesus. Like the guides, each episode features discussion questions to help us apply what we are hearing and start conversations about God's Word.

Enjoy the God's Word for Life companion podcast as we learn and live out God's Word for Life.

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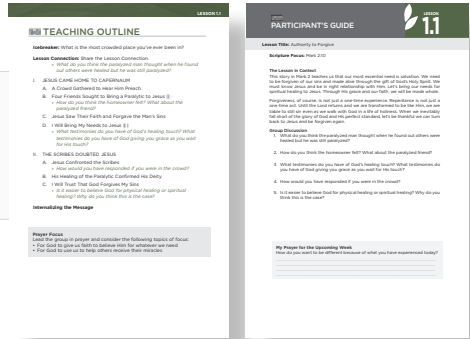
# DIGITAL RESOURCE KIT

The Adult Resource Kit offers a wide array of materials to help expand the impact of each lesson. From videos that inspire discussion to social media tools to help encourage adults to join your group or class, this kit provides tools to help leaders grow their group and make teaching time more effective. Some resources include:



A Video to Accompany Each Lesson to Prompt Discussion or Further Thought

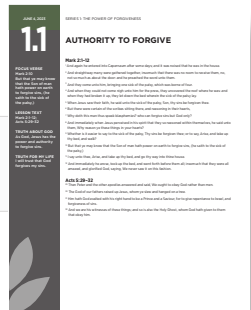
Small Group Teaching Outlines and Participant Guides



A Powerpoint to Accompany Each Lesson



Lesson Leaves and a Printable Version of the Scripture Text



Social Media Graphics, Tips, and Sample Posting Calendar

# 1.1

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

### FOCUS VERSE

Matthew 6:8

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

### LESSON TEXT

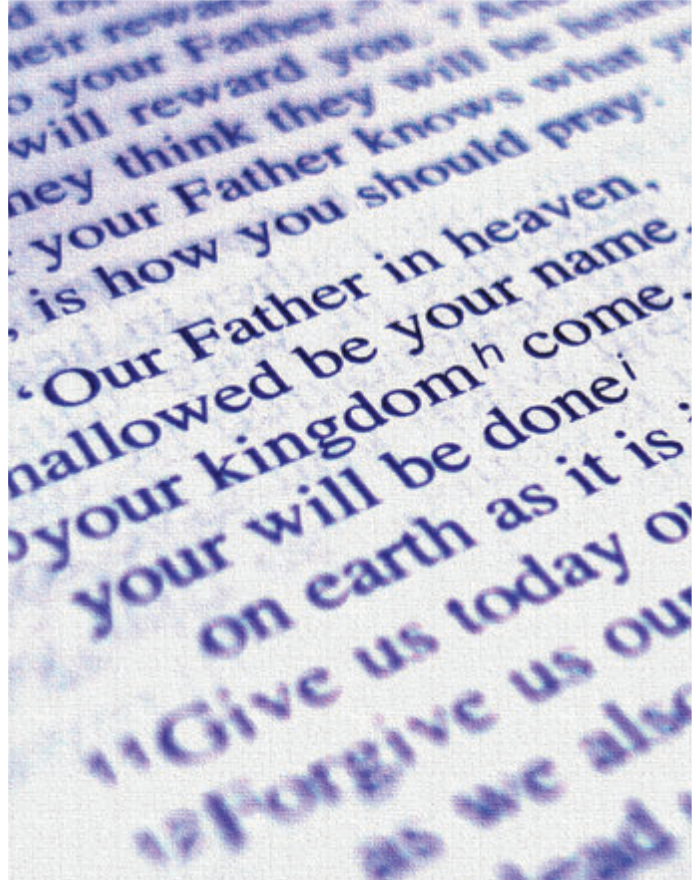
Matthew 6:5-18

### TRUTH ABOUT GOD

God invites us to pray.

### TRUTH FOR MY LIFE

I will follow Jesus' pattern for prayer.



### Series Overview:

Jesus invites us to pray, and He even shares a prayer request of His own: pray for laborers. In His compassion, He invites those laborers to come unto Him and rest, and ultimately prays for all of us—even with our personality differences—to be one.

## **SG** TEACHING OUTLINE

**Icebreaker:** What was your first word? What about your children's first word?

**Lesson Connection:** Share the Lesson Connection.

### I. THE POSTURE FOR PRAYER

- A. Prayer Is a Private Conversation, Not a Public Demonstration
  - » *Do you struggle to have a private conversation with God? If so, why do you think you struggle and how can you ask God to help you?*
- B. We Can Expect God to Answer Our Prayers
- C. I Will Pray with Expectation
  - » *Why do you think some people don't expect God to answer their prayer? How can a seemingly unanswered prayer be the right answer?*

### II. THE PATTERN FOR PRAYER

- » *How do you use the Lord's Prayer in your daily devotion?*
- A. God Is a Loving Father Who Knows What Is Best for His Children
- B. God Will Answer If We Will Ask
- C. I Will Submit My Will, Plans, and Needs to God in Prayer **V**
  - » *What is the most bizarre prayer you have ever prayed? What is the most powerful prayer you have ever prayed?*

### III. THE PURPOSE FOR PRAYER

- A. Thy Kingdom Come; Thy Will Be Done (Right Relationship with God) **I**
  - » *What would look different in your life if God set up His throne in your home?*
- B. We Must Forgive Others (Right Relationship with Others)
- C. I Will Forgive and Show Mercy to Others

### **Internalizing the Message**

#### **Prayer Focus**

Lead the group in prayer and consider the following topics of focus:

- Thank God for His invitation to pray
- For God to help us to faithfully pray

## LESSON CONNECTION

---

Leaving the church parking lot after a Sunday night service, Ray was driving, Niccole was in the passenger seat, and their young daughters were in the back seat. Their firstborn, Jael, was four years old and sprinting toward preschool. She could string sentences together into a story, but Kate was only a few months old. She had not yet said her first word, but her parents were ready and waiting.

Since it was late on a Sunday, Ray was thinking about what he wanted from Wendy's. As he stopped at the bright red light above them, he heard a sweet voice from the back seat. Kate softly said, "Dada." Dada nearly shoved the brake pedal through the floor. He quickly turned to Niccole, "Did you hear that? She said, 'Dada!'" His wife couldn't hide her smile. She heard their little girl too.

Up until that night, Niccole was winning the "first word war." About four years earlier, Jael's first word was "Mama." But on that sacred Sunday night, Kate tied the score at one apiece when she called her dad, "Dada." There is perhaps no sweeter name to a parent's ears than Mama or Dada. The girls could call their parents their provider, protector, tutor, homework helper, chauffeur, ATM, mortgage payer, clothes buyer, handyman, phone fixer, vacation planner, tough-to-open pickle-jar opener. But all those describe what the parents do for the children. When they say, "Dad," though, they describe who their father is to them.

We could search the Scriptures from now until New Year's, and we will find one title after another to call God when we call on Him. We could call Him provider, protector, healer, helper, shield, buckler (whatever that might be), redeemer, Savior, refuge, teacher. But Jesus said the one title He wants to hear when He hears us pray is Father. That makes sense to some, but to others, not so much. Jesus knew that. He knew His words would reach the eyes and ears of people in our day who did not have a strong relationship with their father.

If that is your story, you especially need the opening words of Jesus' lesson on prayer. Jesus will be to you what your father was not. He will do right what your father did wrong. When you pray, open up your prayer with the sweetest sound to His ears: call Jesus Father. If you think it sounds scandalous to you, think how it sounded to Jesus' first-century audience when they first heard it.



# BIBLE LESSON

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## I. THE POSTURE FOR PRAYER

### A. Prayer Is a Private Conversation, Not a Public Demonstration

All through the days of the Old Testament, God's people were scared of God. They saw Him as a ticket-tallying trooper following them around, waiting for them to forget to turn on their turn signal or drive one kilometer per hour over the posted speed limit. Then for four hundred years, God was eerily silent. The paper-thin page between the Old and New Testament covers four hundred years when God did not say a word.

During the silence, Rome had taken over the world and taxed Israel when and how much Rome wanted. God's people lived under the keen eye and iron fist of the Roman government. Then Jesus took a seat on the side of a mountain and told God's people that God was still listening when they prayed, and they could talk to Him. They could even call Him their Father because prayer is a private conversation between us and our Father. Prayer, especially private prayer, is just between you and God.

### B. We Can Expect God to Answer Our Prayers

Our prayers don't just hit the chandelier and bounce back to us. God hears and answers our prayers. We see the goodness of God to hear and the greatness of God to answer collide in the first chapter of the Gospel of Mark. A leper who had lost his health and his humanity came to Jesus. For the last few months, maybe years, the man had been living with other lepers in a leper colony.

But one especially special day, he heard Jesus was walking through town, not far from where he was eking out his living. He ran from the shadows into the sunlight and everyone shrieked. Mothers hid their children. Rabbis even shooed him away, lest they or anyone else be made unclean. The scene was the same as every time before, but this time was different because this time Jesus was there. It is tragic we don't know the leper's name, so we only refer to him as a leper, as if his disease was his whole identity.

But he knelt in front of Jesus and prayed, "If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean" (Mark 1:40). The NKJV reads, "If You are willing, You can make me clean." Jesus was moved with compassion and moved toward the man and touched him. Everyone gasped. But Jesus showed him and us that He is not afraid of our sickness or our sin. Jesus gave this man something leprosy stole from him; Jesus gave him back his humanity. The man was no longer just a leper; he was "human" again. Jesus restored all of that with one answer to one prayer.

*Do you struggle to have a private conversation with God? If so, why do you think you struggle and how can you ask God to help you?*

### C. I Will Pray with Expectation

When we pray, we can pray with expectation. God is good enough to hear and great enough to answer. Let's pray with expectation that God hears and answers. When He answers exactly as we pray, glory to God. When He answers differently than how we pray, glory to God. He knows what we don't and sees what we can't. The question Abraham asked in Genesis 18:25 rings as true for us now as for him then, "Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?" We know God will because He is good and He is great.

*Why do you think some people don't expect God to answer their prayer? How can a seemingly unanswered prayer be the right answer?*

## II. THE PATTERN FOR PRAYER

Sometimes people are overwhelmed by not knowing how to pray. Do I start with Father God? When do I give God my wish list? How long should I pray? In His Sermon on the Mount, Jesus gave us a pattern for our prayer, commonly called the Lord's Prayer. Jesus taught, "After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us 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, for ever. Amen" (Matthew 6:9-13). Some people simply repeat this prayer, but Jesus appeared to use it as a template, a pattern for us to know how to pray rather than words to repeat.

*How do you use the Lord's Prayer in your daily devotion?*

### A. God Is a Loving Father Who Knows What Is Best for His Children

No doubt you have seen the scene play out at the store, usually around the checkout. Children walk with their parents toward the register, and suddenly they see bright orange and red and green and yellow candy wrappers, all at eye level. Children know Mom and Dad could buy them any candy bar they want because their parents have the money. Have you ever seen a parent tell a child no? Some children understand no means no, but some children hear no as the trigger to a tantrum.

Parents know too much sugar could cause diabetes and cavities. They are already thinking ahead to the dentist visit and their crying child as the dentist drills into the rotten tooth. When parents say no, it does not mean they don't love their children; it might mean they do love their children. God is our loving Father, and only He knows what is best for us because He knows more than we know and sees farther than we see.

### B. God Will Answer If We Will Ask

Perhaps you have prayed before and God did not answer like you wanted Him to. Pray again. God will answer if we will ask. James wrote, "Yet ye have not, because ye ask not" (James 4:2). We do not need to know how God will answer; just know He will. Scripture's two testaments are brimming with testimonies

of answered prayers. God parted water, rained down manna and quail, parted water again, felled fortified walls, held the sun still, rained down fire, directed a stone to fell a giant, and those are just a few answers from the first few books of the Bible. God blessed His people and fought for them because He loved them. He loves us the same as He loved them.

### C. I Will Submit My Will, Plans, and Needs to God in Prayer

When we pray, we must submit our will, our plans, and our needs to God. We acknowledge what children acknowledge when they ask their parents for candy: You have the power; I don't. But You also have the wisdom; I don't. It is possible to pray for the wrong things. If we are praying for a five-thousand-square-foot house with a five-thousand-dollar-a-month mortgage for two people working at Subway, neither a lender nor the Lord would smile on that prayer.

#### Teacher Option:

*A supplemental video is available in the Resource Kit. **V***

It is also possible to pray for the right things for the wrong reasons. Take a close look at motives. If I pray for someone to be healed so people will praise me, not God, I am praying for the right thing for the wrong reason. Jesus answered the question of questionable motives by teaching us to pray, "Thy will be done." If we pray that prayer for everyone every time, we will be praying for the right things for the right reasons: the will and glory of God.

*What is the most bizarre prayer you have ever prayed? What is the most powerful prayer you have ever prayed?*

## III. THE PURPOSE FOR PRAYER

### A. Thy Kingdom Come; Thy Will Be Done (Right Relationship with God)

Right between Milwaukee and Chicago is a small city called Zion, Illinois. Zion was founded in 1900 by John Dowie, who was known to pray, and God healed people of their diseases. Some medical students set off stink bombs during one of his sermons; he wasn't making a lot of friends with the doctors of his day. Dowie envisioned a utopian city where God's kingdom would come on Earth, so he set out to build a city on Earth that looked a lot like Heaven, absent the jasper wall and golden streets.

#### Teacher Option:

*A supplemental image is available in the Resource Kit. **I***

Dowie founded the city of Zion, Illinois, but it never grew to Heaven on Earth like he hoped. He died from a stroke while fighting lawsuits and financial collapse. Dowie had the right motive but the wrong method. We do not have to sell everything and move to Zion, Illinois; just pray for the kingdom of God to come where we are. Pray for the kingdom of God to come in your home.

How would we live if God's throne sat right next to the couch in our living room? Would we be more Christian in our searching and scrolling if God's throne sat in view of the laptop? What would our services look like if God's throne sat right in front of our pulpit?

*What would look different in your life if God set up His throne in your home?*

**B. We Must Forgive Others (Right Relationship with Others)**

Our relationship with God is only half of the Lord's Prayer; our relationship with each other is the other half. First John 4 reads, "If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also" (1 John 4:20-21).

In Matthew 6:13, as soon as Jesus said "Amen" in this prayer, He circled back to the hard work of forgiveness and taught, "For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: but if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses" (Matthew 6:14-15). People will hurt you deeply. Some fathers will abandon, abuse, or neglect their own children. Some spouses will cheat after vowing never to cheat; some will abuse. Some children will rebel. Some bosses will empty your pockets by filling theirs. Friends will lie. Brothers and sisters in the church will hurt each other. Even ministry may disappoint you. In it all, through it all, we are called to forgive.

**C. I Will Forgive and Show Mercy to Others**

Jesus understood that forgiveness is rarely easy, but forgiveness is always right. Forgiveness does not justify or condone what others have done. It does not make their wrongs right, but it does heal us. Bitterness is a poison, deadly to the heart, and the only way to be healed is by asking God to forgive us as we forgive others. One of the most difficult yet most powerful prayers you will pray is: "God, I forgive them."



## INTERNALIZING THE MESSAGE

**M**uch of the world was hearing the gospel, but no one seemed to go as far west in America as Alaska. But in the mid-1880s, the Moravian missionaries ventured into the cold Alaskan territories to share the gospel with people who had not yet heard it. As they began to share the story of Jesus and how He died so we could live, they tried to communicate the concept of forgiveness. How do you talk about forgiveness to people who have no word for forgiveness? The gospel is powerful, it is beautiful, and it centers around God forgiving us of our sins and us being able to forgive others for their sins against us.

The missionaries worked with the Alaskan people, and they compounded and coined a word, *issumagijoujungnainermik*. It is hard to pronounce, even harder to spell, but it means “not able to think about it anymore.” Forgiveness was so real to them that they chose to forgive and—by the grace of God—even forget. When God forgives our sins, Hebrews 8:12 teaches us He will remember our sins no more. May we forgive as freely and fully as God has forgiven us, not harboring bitterness and grudges against others or dwelling on the hurt we have felt. Let’s give it all to God and pray for our Father to give us the grace not to think about it anymore.

Forgiveness heals us before it ever heals those we have forgiven. Forgiveness frees us to live free again rather than wait in a prison of our own making as we hope they hurt like we hurt. Unforgiveness is a cruel warden who keeps us in prison while the person who hurt us goes free. Strangely enough, unforgiveness is the only prison that leaves the key on the bench beside us and the lock on the inside of the cell. To go free, we just need to pick up the key, carefully and prayerfully place it in the lock, and turn. The door will open, and we will be free.

### **Prayer Focus**

Lead the group in prayer and consider the following topics of focus:

- Thank God for His invitation to pray
- For God to help us to faithfully pray

# YOUTH

## LEADER GUIDE

### **JESUS TEACHES US TO PRAY**

AFTER THIS MANNER  
THEREFORE PRAY YE

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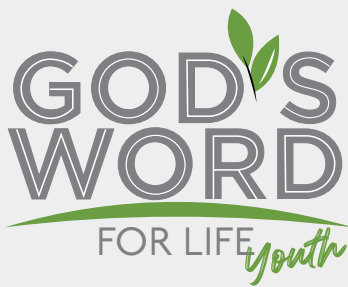
### **JOHN—I AM SAYINGS**

SEE JESUS AS THE I AM

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### **THE SPIRIT IN OUR LIVES**

THE FRUIT AND GIFTS  
OF THE SPIRIT



Youth Leader Guide  
Summer 2024

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 God's Word for Life

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To share your own video devotional, use  
**#GodsWord4Youth** and **#MyDailyDevotional**



# HOW TO USE THIS LESSON GUIDE

God's Word for Life marks a new chapter in both youth and church-wide curriculum. With this new chapter comes a fresh vision for curriculum's focus, content, and visual display. Below you'll find various highlights of the new features and what to expect as you start to prepare for the quarter ahead.

## GETTING STARTED

The first page of each lesson provides the overarching information you can use to plan your class.

## PRETEEN TRANSITION

The idea behind the preteen transition is simple: there will always be an influx of preteens joining the youth class, and these options help make students in transition feel comfortable moving from one classroom dynamic to the next. The Preteen Transition offers a quick activity that often highlights more physical action or activity—something that tends to be more common in children's classrooms.

JUNE 2, 2024  
SERIES 1: JESUS TEACHES US TO PRAY

# 1.1

**SERIES BIG IDEA**  
Jesus invites us to pray, and He even shares a prayer request of His own: pray for laborers. In His compassion, He invites those laborers to come unto Him and rest. He ultimately prays for all of us—even with our personality differences—to be one.

**BIBLICAL PASSAGE**  
Matthew 6:5-18

**THE TRUTH FOR MY LIFE**  
I will follow Jesus' pattern for prayer.

**TRUTH ABOUT GOD** ///  
God invites us to pray.

### PRETEEN TRANSITION (5 MIN)

#### WHO ARE YOU TALKING TO?

1. Have students sit or stand in a circle.
2. Go around the circle with students introducing themselves with their first name and the name of something they like that starts with the same letter as their name. On their turn, students say the name and word of every person before them before introducing themselves.
  - a. Example: My name is Kate KitKat.
  - b. Her name is Kate KitKat. My name is Bobby Baseball.
  - c. Her name is Kate KitKat. His name is Bobby Baseball. My name is Callie Cocoa Puffs.
  - d. Continue around the circle until everyone is introduced.
3. Knowing the name and something about the person we are talking to helps the conversation. When we pray, which is talking with God, it helps to know about Him.

#### Daily Devotional Check-In ///

Last week we discussed the necessity of obedience in our spiritual lifestyle. Obedience can be hard, even on our best days. We want to do what we want to do, and obedience often means fighting against our own desires. What chore are you asked to do, but you find it difficult to do?



# WHERE DO WE BEGIN?

Every lesson will begin with a narrative to reinforce the themes and ideas of the subject matter, grabbing students' attention in a unique way with a new narrative or scenario every week.

# ENGAGE AND RELEASE ACTIVITIES

God's Word for Life offers two options at the beginning and end of each lesson to ensure teachers have a variety of ways to engage students. These options feature physical activities, object lessons, discussion, learning scenarios, and short stories to add variety as well as reinforce the themes and ideas of the material.

LESSON 11

God invites us to pray.

## WHERE DO WE BEGIN?/// (5 MIN)

He had a daunting task. His father was a beloved king. His father's subjects sang songs about him before he even took the throne. "Saul has slain thousands, but David has slain ten thousands." He could still hear his father's chorus ringing in his own ears. He did not have a legacy yet. He did not have the reverence and admiration of the people; in fact, he barely even had a throne.

One day he would be world-renowned. People would travel from far and wide just to see his majesty on full display. They would tell tales of his tremendous judgments, yet upon meeting him, dignitaries would marvel that the half had not been told. His gardens would be regarded as a wonder of the ancient world. His name would become synonymous with "wisdom" itself.

**HE WAS JUST A MAN—A MAN WITH A TREMENDOUS BURDEN OF TRYING TO WALK IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF A MAN GOD HIMSELF DECLARED TO BE AFTER HIS OWN HEART.**

However, that was not the case yet. He was just a man—a man with a tremendous burden of trying to walk in the footsteps of a man God Himself declared to be after his own heart. That same God visited with him and asked, "Solomon, what do you want from Me?" Solomon could have asked for anything. He could have asked for riches, fame, military might, or power. Instead, he prayed, "God, grant me Your wisdom." God honored Solomon's request and granted Solomon far more as well.

Hundreds of years later, twelve men stood before the same God. In unison they asked for something that seemed simple, yet it exceeded even Solomon's wisdom: "Lord, teach us to pray."

## ENGAGE/// (10 MIN)

### OPTION 1

- For this activity you will need large, blank puzzle pieces and an assortment of markers. Use the puzzle pieces provided in the Resource Kit, use pieces from a purchased puzzle, or cut out pieces from paper or posterboard.
- Give each student a puzzle piece and markers.
- Allow about five minutes for students to decorate one side of the puzzle piece with something that represents them and include their name.
- Later in this lesson, students will add a prayer request to the back.
- After the prayer requests are added, hang the puzzle pieces art in the classroom or place it on a surface for display. Let students decide which side of their puzzle piece they want visible.
  - When problems come in life, we may feel confused or puzzled and not know how things will work out. We may feel separated from others.
  - Prayer binds us together so we know we are not alone.
  - We trust God to know the whole picture, and we believe someday we may understand how it all fits together.

### OPTION 2

- This game is called "Two Truths and a Lie." Choose three creative students who are able to persuade other students.

## RELEASE/// (10 MIN)

### OPTION 1

- For this activity you will need the "Release it or Not" worksheets provided in the Resource Kit, along with pens and Bibles.
- Students may work alone or in small groups to read the provided passages and complete the worksheet.
- Ask the following questions:
  - Why are these students afraid?
  - Why do you think God performed these unusual miracles?
  - Have you ever seen or heard of an unusual miracle?

### OPTION 2

- For this activity students will need prayer journals. Consider purchasing inexpensive journals or notebooks for students.
- They will also need assorted stickers, markers, and other embellishments.
- Invite them to students to decorate their prayer journals if they don't already have a personal journal.
- On the inside cover have students write their name and the Lord's Prayer.
- Then using the pattern of the Lord's Prayer have students write a prayer of their own words.
- Have students use their journals to record their thoughts throughout the week as well as answer the questions in their Daily Devotional Guides.

## PRAYER///

Prayer helps us decide to walk in deeper relationship with You, the Father, and to keep us close to You through prayer. We want to follow the pattern You have given us so we can align ourselves with the plans You have for our lives.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

*I will follow Jesus' pattern for prayer.*


## WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?/// (25 MIN)

### A. The Posture of Prayer

- Prayer is one of the most important things we do. Consider how often we are called upon to pray when we gather together to worship. Perhaps your Sunday morning looks similar to this:
  - You arrive early to church for pre-service prayer.
  - Your Sunday school teacher takes prayer requests and opens the lesson in prayer.
  - Someone closes the lesson in prayer.
  - A minister opens the main service in prayer.
  - During the service, those who are sick are called to the front for prayer.
  - Someone prays over the offering.
  - The preacher prays prior to beginning the sermon.
  - An altar call follows the preaching to give people an opportunity to pray about what they've just heard and felt.
  - After altar call, someone closes the service in prayer.
- It is easy to see how important prayer is to our relationship with Jesus. With so many opportunities for public prayer, we may misunderstand the purpose of prayer. This misunderstanding is nothing new; people in Jesus' day struggled to understand why we pray.
 

**Read Matthew 6:5-8.**

And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. 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. But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.
- Jesus' intention was not to say we should never pray in public; rather, Jesus was addressing the heart of prayer. He was reminding His followers that prayer is not a public demonstration. It is a private conversation.
- Prayer is an opportunity for us individually and collectively to connect with our holy God.
  - We talk to God, but we can also expect Him to talk to us.
  - We do not serve a God who is unresponsive to us. He hears and answers our prayers.



PRAYER IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS WE DO.

# WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

Alongside offerings of multiple options for opening and closing activities God's Word for Life offers foundational biblical teaching in a simple and concise outline for teachers to use. Whether you plan to use this as a basis for your weekly study or plan to expand on the points provided, this section lays out the basis of the story each week. When we can fully grasp the main points of each story, we can better express how we apply the story to students' lives in the following sections.

3



# HOW TO USE THIS LESSON GUIDE

## JR. HIGH AND SR. HIGH BREAKOUTS

God's Word for Life offers a completely new approach to curriculum through a single Youth level that features breakout content tailored for different age levels. These Jr. High and Sr. High Breakouts will be displayed as a spread in the middle of each lesson and will offer unique activities and discussion prompts. Breakouts will also provide a tailored application of the content discussed in the first half of each lesson.

LESSON 11

### JR. HIGH BREAKOUT

- For this activity use the Mad Lib sheet provided in the Resource Kit. Mad Libs are also available for free on various websites if you would like to use one of your own choosing.
- As you work through the sheet, ask students for words to fill in the blanks, without providing any context.
- When the words are all filled in, read the story aloud.
  - Sometimes the conversations you have with God will not make sense to anyone else except you and Him.
  - It is good to have an order for your prayer time to help you stay focused.

- Have you ever tried to get your parents' attention, but it seemed as if they did not hear you?
  - Perhaps your mom was busy working when you tried to ask her something. "Mom... Mom... MOM!"
  - She abruptly looks up at you with a scowl on her face. "I heard you the first time," she says. "I am thinking about how I want to answer you."
- In most of our relationships, we discover we do not always get an immediate answer to questions we ask. Sometimes people choose to answer when they are ready rather than when we want them to answer.
- With Jesus it is the same.
  - He does not always answer us right away.
  - Sometimes we must wait until He is ready to answer.
  - During that waiting period, we may feel as if He did not hear us or He is not concerned about our lives.
  - We may see the time between when we ask and when God answers as evidence He does not care. That is far from the truth, though.

**Read Hebrews 4:15-16.**  
For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like to us, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

**Daily Devotional Insight** //  
This week we will talk about what it means to follow a pattern of prayer in our own lives. The Lord's Prayer gives us a literal pattern to follow, but it goes beyond the order in which we say the words. Every day should be an opportunity for us to talk with God and lay our worship and our needs as His feet.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

### SR. HIGH BREAKOUT

- For this activity use the "Will He, Won't He" discussion slips from the Resource Kit. Cut apart and fold the slips. For each group, place several slips into a bag.
- Form small groups. Give each group a bag with several discussion slips.
- In each group, students take turns pulling a slip of paper from their bag. The student then reads the slip out loud to the group.
- Groups discuss the prayer and decide if God will or will not answer the prayer, giving their reasoning for coming to their conclusion. Continue until all slips have been discussed, with groups dividing their slips into two stacks: He will and He for now.
- When all slips have been discussed in the small groups, come together and discuss your answers as a class.
  - Prayer is not a way to convince God to do what we want; it is a conversation.
  - God can do everything we ask of Him, but that does not mean He will.
  - Some things are a result of our poor choices, like burned dinner. God may provide another source of food, but He might not unburn the first batch.
  - God is not a magic genie. He is a loving and wise God who supplies all our needs.

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For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like to us, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

- God may not answer with a bright light, a booming voice, or a lightning strike the moment we say amen; but before we even pray the prayer, God is at work on our behalf for the very things we need.
  - Even if His answer does not come right away, He hears us. His answer may not look like or sound like the answer we imagined, but He still hears and cares.
  - God's decisions over our prayers come about by His perfect love and wisdom in everything. If we are praying for someone to be harmed for making fun of us, we should not expect God to get back to us on that one.
- When God does answer our prayer, if it is His will, we will know without a doubt He is responsible for what came about.
  - It is important for us always to pray in faith and with expectation that God has heard us and will work through our prayers.

**Daily Devotional Insight** //  
This week we will talk about what it means to follow a pattern of prayer in our own lives. Our lives are defined by our habits, so if prayer does not take place every day, it probably says something about the way we are living. Not everyone's pattern will look the same, so figure out what works for you. Just make sure you are taking time to talk with God every day.

**Read Philippians 4:6-7.**  
Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. 7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

13

## DEVOTIONAL TIE-IN

Each lesson will feature three areas in which teachers will be prompted to ask about or discuss devotional content from both the previous week and the week of devotionals ahead. This will help to reinforce the need for devotional time each day and push students to engage with the at-home **Daily Devotional Guide**.

JUNE 2, 2024

# 11

SERIES 1: JESUS TEACHES US TO PRAY

SERIES BIG IDEA: Jesus teaches us to pray, and the way others pray for us. He shows us how to pray for ourselves, for others, and for the world. He shows us how to pray for ourselves, for others, and for the world. He shows us how to pray for ourselves, for others, and for the world.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

TRUTH ABOUT GOD: God invites us to pray.

LESSON 11

### JR. HIGH BREAKOUT

- For this activity use the Mad Lib sheet provided in the Resource Kit. Mad Libs are also available for free on various websites if you would like to use one of your own choosing.
- As you work through the sheet, ask students for words to fill in the blanks, without providing any context.
- When the words are all filled in, read the story aloud.
  - Sometimes the conversations you have with God will not make sense to anyone else except you and Him.
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- Have you ever tried to get your parents' attention, but it seemed as if they did not hear you?
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PRETEEN TRANSITION (12-14)

### WHO ARE YOU TALKING TO?

- Have students sit at desks in a circle.
- Go around the circle with students introducing themselves with their first name and the name of something they love to do with the same letter as their name. On their turn, students say the name and word of every person before them before introducing themselves.
  - Example: My name is Kate Kitch.
  - My name is Kate Kitch. My name is Bobby Borsari.
- My name is Kate Kitch. My name is Bobby Borsari. My name is Caleb Cassa Purr.
- Continue around the circle until everyone is introduced.
- Having the name and something about the person we are talking to helps the conversation when we pray, which is talking with God. It helps to know what He's listening to.

**Daily Devotional Check-in** //  
Last week we discussed the necessity of obedience in our spiritual lives. Obedience can be hard even on our best days. We want to do what we want to do, and obedience often means fighting against our own desires which often are added to but not better than a difficult to do!

## EQUIP YOUR STUDENTS FOR DAILY STUDY OF GOD'S WORD

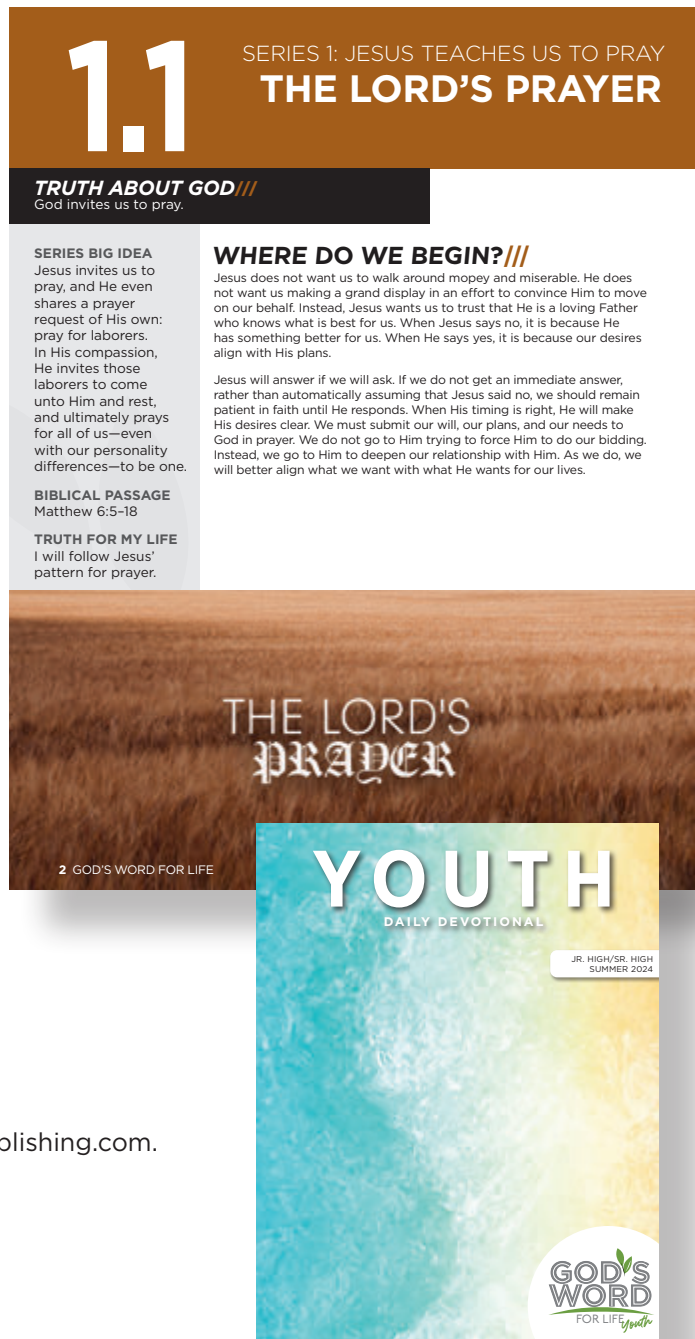
Guiding your students in becoming lifelong Apostolic disciples is an enormous task to accomplish in just an hour on Sunday or Wednesday. Now you can expand your ministry with a tool that guides students in Bible study every day of the week.

This guide provides a daily Bible passage connected to the week's lesson and a corresponding devotion. Each day ends with a final challenge to apply the message of God's Word with both junior high and senior high options.

Make your teaching complete with this student resource by incorporating student feedback into class time. (Prompts are provided in this Leader Guide to help.) Additionally you can calendar the materials to coincide one of two ways:

1. Instruct students to complete the accompanying devotional material during the week to reinforce the Bible passages already taught in the lesson at church.
2. Teach one week behind the suggested schedule in this Leader Guide so students interact with the Bible passages for the lesson during the week at home before the lesson. This option would allow for additional discussion since students will have already reviewed lesson content in advance.

In either scenario, this tool equips students to dig into God's Word every day!



**ONLY \$4.99**

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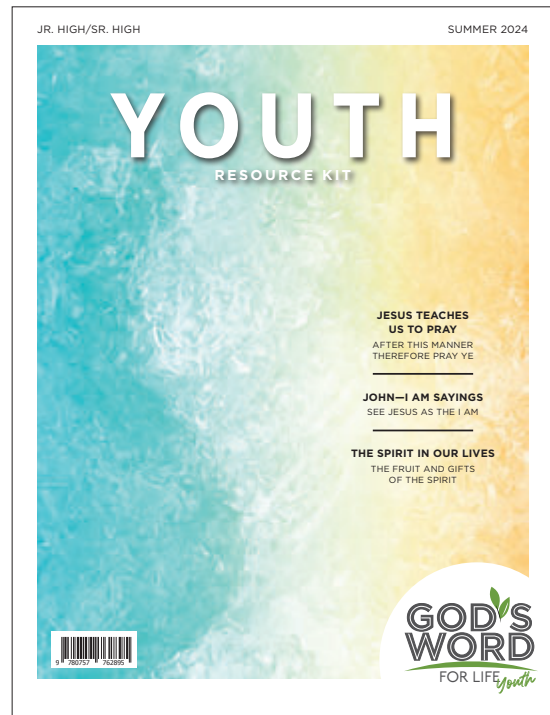
# ENLIVEN YOUR LESSONS WITH VIDEOS AND RESOURCES

## RESOURCE KIT

Take advantage of the Youth Resource Kit for a robust collection of teaching tools to make each week exciting and engaging.

Contents:

1. A video for each lesson
2. A poster for each of the three series
3. A supplement for adapting each lesson to minister to students affected by disabilities
4. Excerpts from Word Aflame Press books for additional research
5. Social medial calendar and suggested practices
6. Graphics package



## VIDEO CONTENT

Each lesson's opening story will be available as a video within the Resource Kit as a way of engaging students through a visual medium. The Resource Kit will also include contextual videos about the biblical passage as well as training videos to help you in the preparation process.

**ONLY \$24.99**

Order your copy today at [www.pentecostalpublishing.com](http://www.pentecostalpublishing.com).





## SERIES 1: SALVATION IN ACTS

---

Walk through four key passages in the Book of Acts where Luke reported the spread of salvation from Jerusalem all the way to the end of the earth. As we learn what God did in their day, we will understand better what He wants to do in our day.

## SERIES 2: JESUS, OUR SAVIOR

---

From John 11-13, follow Jesus' Spirit-led footsteps as He set His face toward Calvary during His final week. He raised the dead, welcomed worship, and rode into Jerusalem to the cheers of *Hosanna*. He was clearly not just Jesus the carpenter or even the prophet: He was and is Jesus, our Savior.

## SERIES 3: ROMANS

---

The Book of Romans is one of the richest books in all sixty-six books that comprise the Bible. Pull up your chair and feast your soul on Paul's writings in Romans and how those inspired words apply to your life today.



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# THE LORD'S PRAYER

## SERIES BIG IDEA

Jesus invites us to pray, and He even shares a prayer request of His own: pray for laborers. In His compassion, He invites those laborers to come unto Him and rest. He ultimately prays for all of us—even with our personality differences—to be one.

## BIBLICAL PASSAGE

Matthew 6:5–18

## THE TRUTH FOR MY LIFE

I will follow Jesus' pattern for prayer.

## TRUTH ABOUT GOD ///

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*God invites us to pray.*

## WHERE DO WE BEGIN? *///* ( 5 MIN )

He had a daunting task. His father was a beloved king. His father's subjects sang songs about him before he even took the throne. "Saul has slain thousands, but David has slain ten thousands." He could still hear his father's chorus ringing in his own ears. He did not have a legacy yet. He did not have the reverence and admiration of the people; in fact, he barely even had a throne.

One day he would be world-renowned. People would travel from far and wide just to see his majesty on full display. They would tell tales of his tremendous judgments, yet upon meeting him, dignitaries would marvel that the half had not been told. His gardens would be regarded as a wonder of the ancient world. His name would become synonymous with "wisdom" itself.

*HE WAS JUST A MAN—A MAN WITH A TREMENDOUS BURDEN OF TRYING TO WALK IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF A MAN GOD HIMSELF DECLARED TO BE AFTER HIS OWN HEART.*

However, that was not the case yet. He was just a man—a man with a tremendous burden of trying to walk in the footsteps of a man God Himself declared to be after His own heart. That same God visited with him and asked, "Solomon, what do you want from Me?" Solomon could have asked

for anything. He could have asked for riches, fame, military might, or power. Instead, he prayed, "God, grant me Your wisdom." God honored Solomon's request and granted Solomon far more as well.

Hundreds of years later, twelve men stood before the same God. In unison they asked for something that seemed simple, yet it exceeded even Solomon's wisdom: "Lord, teach us to pray."

## ENGAGE *///* ( 10 MIN )

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  - Prayer binds us together so we know we are not alone.
  - We trust God to know the whole picture, and we believe someday we may understand how it all fits together.

### OPTION 2

1. This game is called "Two Truths and a Lie." Choose three creative students who are able to persuade other students.
2. Pull students aside individually to explain the rules.
3. Each student will share information about themselves that includes two truths and one lie.
4. The chosen students will take turns stating two truths and a lie.
5. The class should then guess which is the lie.
6. Continue until all three lies have been revealed.
  - Although we may be able to get away with lying to one another, God always knows the truth about us. There is no reason to lie to Him.
  - When we pray, we can tell God everything and know He is able to forgive us if we only ask.

*I will follow Jesus' pattern for prayer.*

## WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? (25 MIN)

### A. The Posture of Prayer

1. Prayer is one of the most important things we do. Consider how often we are called upon to pray when we gather together to worship. Perhaps your Sunday morning looks similar to this:
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  - e. During the service, those who are sick are called to the front for prayer.
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  - h. An altar call follows the preaching to give people an opportunity to pray about what they've just heard and felt.
  - i. After altar call, someone closes the service in prayer.
2. It is easy to see how important prayer is to our relationship with Jesus. With so many opportunities for public prayer, we may misunderstand the purpose of prayer. This misunderstanding is nothing new; people in Jesus' day struggled to understand why we pray.

#### **Read Matthew 6:5-8.**

And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. 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. But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.

3. Jesus' intention was not to say we should never pray in public; rather, Jesus was addressing the heart of prayer. He was reminding His followers that prayer is not a public demonstration; it is a private conversation.
4. Prayer is an opportunity for us individually and collectively to connect with our holy God.
  - a. We talk to God, but we can also expect Him to talk to us.
  - b. We do not serve a God who is unresponsive to us. He hears and answers our prayers.



PRAYER IS ONE OF THE MOST  
IMPORTANT THINGS WE DO.

## JR. HIGH BREAKOUT!!!

1. For this activity use the Mad Lib sheet provided in the Resource Kit. Mad Libs are also available for free on various websites if you would like to use one of your own choosing.
2. As you work through the sheet, ask students for words to fill in the blanks, without providing any context.
3. When the words are all filled in, read the story aloud.
  - Sometimes the conversations you have with God will not make sense to anyone else except you and Him.
  - It is good to have an order for your prayer time to help you stay focused.

1. Have you ever tried to get your parents' attention, but it seemed as if they did not hear you?
  - a. Perhaps your mom was busy working when you tried to ask her something. "Mom . . . Mom . . . MOM!"
  - b. She abruptly looks up at you with a scowl on her face. "I heard you the first time," she says. "I am thinking about how I want to answer you."
2. In most of our relationships, we discover we do not always get an immediate answer to questions we ask. Sometimes people choose to answer when they are ready rather than when we want them to answer.
3. With Jesus it is the same.
  - a. He does not always answer us right away.
  - b. Sometimes we must wait until He is ready to answer.
  - c. During that waiting period, we may feel as if He did not hear us or He is not concerned about our lives.
  - d. We may see the time between when we ask and when God answers as evidence He does not care. That is far from the truth, though.

### Read Hebrews 4:15-16.

For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

### Daily Devotional Insight !!!

This week we will talk about what it means to follow a pattern of prayer in our own lives. The Lord's Prayer gives us a literal pattern to follow, but it goes beyond the order in which we say the words. Every day should be an opportunity for us to talk with God and lay our worship and our needs at His feet.

4. God may not answer us right away, but that is not a bad thing. Sometimes God is waiting until the right time to answer. God is not ignoring us; He may be saying, "Not right now."
5. We must pray with expectation. We should always go to God with faith believing He cares about how we feel, and He is prepared to answer us in His time. We can maintain an attitude of worship and faith while we wait for Him to respond.

## SR. HIGH BREAKOUT!!!

1. For this activity use the “Will He, Won’t He” discussion slips from the Resource Kit. Cut apart and fold the slips. For each group, place several slips into a bag.
2. Form small groups. Give each group a bag with several discussion slips.
3. In each group, students take turns pulling a slip of paper from their bag. The student then reads the slip out loud to the group.
4. Groups discuss the prayer and decide if God will or will not answer the prayer, giving their reasoning for coming to their conclusion. Continue until all slips have been discussed, with groups dividing their slips into two stacks: He will and He won’t.
5. When all slips have been discussed in the small groups, come together and discuss your answers as a class.
  - Prayer is not a way to convince God to do what we want; it is a conversation.
  - God can do everything we ask of Him, but that does not mean He will.
  - Some things are a result of our poor choices, like burned dinner. God may provide another source of food, but He might not unburn the first batch.
  - God is not a magic genie; He is a loving and wise God who supplies all our needs.

1. In most of our relationships, we discover we do not always get an immediate answer to questions we ask. Sometimes people choose to answer when they are ready rather than when we want them to answer.
2. With Jesus it is the same.
  - a. He does not always answer us right away.
  - b. Sometimes we must wait until He is ready to answer.
  - c. During that waiting period, we may feel as if He did not hear us or He is not concerned about our lives.
  - d. We may see the time between when we ask and when God answers as evidence He does not care. That is far from the truth, though.

### Read Hebrews 4:15-16.

For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

3. God may not answer with a bright light, a booming voice, or a lightning strike the moment we say amen, but before we even pray the prayer, God is at work on our behalf for the very things we need.
  - a. Even if His answer does not come right away, He hears us. His answer may not look like or sound like the answer we imagined, but He still hears and cares.
  - b. God’s decisions over our prayers come about by His perfect love and wisdom in everything. If we are praying for someone to be harmed for making fun of us, we should not expect God to get back to us on that one.
4. When God does answer our prayer, if it is His will, we will know without a doubt He is responsible for what came about.
5. It is important for us always to pray in faith and with expectation that God has heard us and will work through our prayers.

### Read Philippians 4:6-7.

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. 7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

### Daily Devotional Insight !!!

This week we will talk about what it means to follow a pattern of prayer in our own lives. Our lives are defined by our habits, so if prayer does not take place every day, it probably says something about the way we are living. Not everyone’s pattern will look the same, so figure out what works for you. Just make sure you are taking time to talk with God every day.



**B. The Pattern of Prayer**

1. Imagine you are standing in a long lunch line at school. No one has a phone, so everyone is just awkwardly looking around the room. The person behind you tries to strike up a conversation.
  - a. “Wow, this line is long,” he says.
  - b. “It sure is,” you reply.
  - c. “I wonder what they are serving today,” he says.
  - d. “Chicken nuggets, I think,” you respond, even though you know for sure it is chicken nuggets because you checked three times.
2. Conversation can be uncomfortable when we don’t know what to say. Perhaps that is why the disciples needed Jesus to teach them to pray. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus shared what has become known as the Lord’s Prayer. It is not a specific prayer for us to repeat; it is a pattern that teaches us how to communicate with God.

**Read Matthew 6:9–13.**

After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us 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, for ever. Amen.

3. Jesus began His pattern of prayer with worship and adoration of God. It is important to begin our prayers this way. Beginning with worship reminds us of two things:
  - a. Who God is—He is God.
  - b. Who we are—we are not.
4. First, we must recognize we are praying to Jesus because He is God and we are not. We need His wisdom, guidance, and direction to live in right relationship with Him.
5. Second, Jesus taught us to pray for God’s will. We pray: “Your kingdom come, and Your will be done.” We need God’s will and His kingdom to take priority over the things we desire.
  - a. This portion of prayer is how we place ourselves in right relationship with God.
  - b. Have you ever made a wrong decision that seemed right at the time? For example, imagine you decided to meet a friend at the park to play basketball because you both had a couple of hours to spare. But fifteen minutes after you arrived, it began to rain. You made the wrong decision, but only because you had no way of knowing what the weather would do.
  - c. When we make decisions on our own, we can only choose the right action based on the information we have. But we often do not have all the information we need to do the right thing because we are not all-knowing.
  - d. This is where Jesus comes in. Because He knows everything, He always knows what we ought to do. If we ask for His will to be done in our lives, He will show us the path we ought to take.
6. Third, we ask for God’s daily bread. This is where we ask for the things we need. In addition, we ask for God to sustain us.
  - a. We recognize we need more than just natural things, like food, shelter, clothing, and so on; we need spiritual blessings as well.
  - b. We can trust that as our loving Father, Jesus will bless us with good things.
7. Fourth, we must ask God to forgive us as we forgive others.
  - a. We constantly find ourselves in need of forgiveness. This is not because we have wrong or sinful intentions; rather, it is because we are human, so we often fall short of God’s will for us.



*I will follow Jesus' pattern for prayer.*

- b. Just as we fall short of God's best for us, others often fall short of doing right by us. We want to be forgiven if we do wrong by God, so He wants us to forgive others if they do wrong by us.
  - c. This section of Jesus' prayer pattern calls us to live in right relationship with others. We cannot be right with others if we are harboring hurt feelings and unforgiveness. We must forgive and show mercy to others.
8. Fifth, we ask God to keep us from straying into unrighteousness. We need His help to walk righteously in His sight.
  9. Sixth, we close the prayer by offering Jesus praise and worship once again. Just as we began by reminding ourselves He is God and we are not, we close our prayer the same way.
  10. After His instruction on how to pray, Jesus informed His disciples of the proper way to fast.

**Read Matthew 6:16-18.**

Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face; that thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly.

11. Jesus does not want us to walk around pouty and miserable. He does not want us making a grand display in an effort to convince Him to move on our behalf.
  - a. Instead, Jesus wants us to trust He is a loving Father who knows what is best for us.
  - b. When Jesus says no, it is because He has something better for us. When He says yes, it is because our desires align with His plans.
12. Jesus will answer if we will ask. In fact, we ought to ask until He answers.
  - a. When we do not get an immediate answer, instead of assuming He said no, we should continue to ask until He moves or we know He has given us direction.
  - b. When His timing is right, He will make clear to us what He wants to do.
13. We must submit our will, our plans, and our needs to God in prayer. We go to Him not trying to force Him to do our bidding, but to deepen our relationship with Him. As we do, we will better align ourselves with His plans for our lives.



IMAGINE YOU ARE STANDING  
IN A LONG LUNCH LINE AT  
SCHOOL.

## RELEASE III (10 MIN)

### OPTION 1

1. For this activity you will need the “Believe It or Not” worksheets provided in the Resource Kit, along with pens and Bibles.
2. Students may work alone or in small groups to read the unusual miracles and complete the worksheet provided.
3. Ask the following questions:
  - Why are these requests unusual?
  - Why do you think God performed these unusual miracles?
  - Have you ever seen or heard of an unusual miracle?

### OPTION 2

1. For this activity students will need prayer journals. Consider purchasing inexpensive journals or notebooks for students.
2. They will also need assorted stickers, markers, and other embellishments.
3. Allow time for students to decorate their prayer journals if they don't already have a personal journal.
4. On the inside cover, have students write their name and the Lord's Prayer.
5. Then using the pattern of the Lord's Prayer, have students write a prayer in their own words.
6. Have students use their journal to record their thoughts throughout the week as well as to answer the questions in their Daily Devotional Guides.



## PRAYER III

Jesus, help us desire to walk in deeper relationship with You. We know we can only do that through prayer. We want to follow the pattern You have given us so we can align ourselves with the plans You have for our lives.



LITTLE LEARNERS

LEADER GUIDE  
SUMMER 2024



GODS  
WORD  
FOR LIFE  
kids



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**Little Learners Leader Guide**

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# LITTLE LEARNERS LEADER GUIDE SUMMER 2024

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\* HS stands for Heritage Sunday

### CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



God’s Word for Life Kids Community



@GodsWordForLife

# FAQS ABOUT GOD'S WORD FOR LIFE

## Is there a family devotional for Little Learners?

Family devotional activities are included on the front page of the Little Learners Devotional and Activity Pages. In addition to a learning activity and coloring page, each lesson includes a God's Word for Families home-connection section, giving parents and caregivers ideas to help children play through each lesson at home. To promote discipleship in the home, send each student home with an activity paper and encourage families to revisit the lesson throughout the week with these fun, hands-on activities.

## 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 Little Learners curriculum can still be used on its own.

## 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



## What resources do I need to teach Little Learners?

- *Leader Guide (LG)*: This 96-page guide provides the lesson content for leaders and teachers to present in Sunday school, home school, or any teaching environment. It is available in both print and digital formats.
- *Little Learners Devotional and Activity Pages*: For each lesson, every student needs an activity page. The interactive activities can be done during class or at home. This resource is available in both print and digital formats.
- *Resource Kit (RK)*: This kit provides essential supplements to make each lesson come alive. Some lessons require material 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 on page 3.

## LEGEND

**RK** Resource Kit  
**DR** Digital Resource  
in Resource Kit  
**LG** Leader Guide

**MW** Memory Work  
**QL** Video Quick Links document  
**TAG** Truth about God  
**TML** 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 Little Learners 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, songs, lyrics, sound effects, 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 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 link in 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 Little Learners 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 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" . 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"  document are suggestions to tie the theme to each lesson.

## 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 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. The Little Learners LG does not have this type of supplement because the activities are typically applicable for students with special needs.

In addition, the digital resources of the Resource Kit provide a Spiritual IEP  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 may face. This information will help 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**



## 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 2-5, the relevant levels include the following:

- **Little Learners** is written for classes with a blend of toddlers and preschoolers. Ideas are given for both age groups. These children show up to church ready to play, so a variety of activities help them play through the lesson. This level's content is student-driven.
- **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.

Classes with students who haven't yet entered preschool will be best served using the Little Learners curriculum. Similarly, if a three-year-old has learned to read and has entered preschool, the child may be best served using the Kindergarten material.

# WHAT ARE THE KEY FEATURES OF EACH LESSON?

As you browse through the Leader Guide, take note of these features:

## **BASICS**

- *Truth about God (TAG):* This statement summarizes what the Bible story reveals about God. It should serve as the basis behind every activity. Everything you teach in the lesson should point to the Truth about God.
- *Truth for My Life (TML):* This statement summarizes the lesson's application. Coming out of the lesson, students should be ready to proclaim and enact this simple truth.
- *Teacher Devotional:* On the first page of each lesson, this section provides takeaways to help teachers prayerfully prepare for the lesson.
- *Supplies:* On the second page of each lesson provides an overview of the materials necessary for the activities.

## **PREPARE THE HEART**

This opening section of the lesson contains activities to introduce the lesson's Truth about God.

- *Connect:* Each lesson starts with opening activities designed to gather students, take attendance, collect offering, and most importantly, introduce the Truth about God.
- *Video Introduction:* Video suggestions are provided to capture students' attention. These videos are optional and not essential to teaching the lesson.
- *Opener:* To start each lesson, use the front of the Activity Page to focus students and introduce the Truth about God (TAG). Then to further illustrate the TAG, choose from the two options based on the composition of your students.

## **INSTRUCT THE HEART**

This middle section of the lesson tells the Bible story.

- *Bible Lesson Verse(s):* The verse or verses highlighted here capture the essence behind the Bible story.
- *Lesson Lead-In:* This brief activity is designed to transition students so their minds are ready to receive the Bible story that is about to be told.
- *Bible Lesson:* This age-appropriate telling of the Bible story is designed to keep students engaged as you focus their hearts on the Truth about God.

## **CONNECT TO THE HEART**

This application section of the lesson contains activities designed to help students internalize the Truth for My Life.

- *Application Activity:* Coming out of the Bible lesson, use the back of the Activity Page to introduce the Truth for My Life (TML). To further illustrate the TML, choose from the two options based on the composition of your students.
- *Prayer and Response:* Close each lesson by praying an echo prayer with students.
- *Home Connection:* Ideas are provided to help you connect with families at the end of class and throughout the week.

## **ADDITIONAL OPTIONS**

In order to learn, Little Learners need to play. At the end of each lesson, find two pages of activities to work into the lesson plan at your discretion. As students do these activities, repeat the Truth about God and the Truth for My Life again and again (and again). These additional activities include Worship, Memory Work, and options of a game, snack, and craft.

# 11

## JESUS TEACHES HOW TO PRAY

*Matthew 6:5-15*

### SERIES AIM

To better understand how to pray by following Jesus' example.

### SERIES MEMORY VERSE

**Jeremiah 29:12**

"Pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you."

### SERIES MEMORY WORDS

Pray to Jesus, and He will hear.

### BIBLE LESSON VERSE

**Matthew 6:9**

"After this manner therefore pray ye."



#### TRUTH ABOUT GOD

Jesus wants us to pray like He did.

#### TRUTH FOR MY LIFE

I will pray like Jesus.

### TEACHER DEVOTIONAL

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

Looking for classroom decor ideas? See the Classroom Decor Ideas **DR** provided in your digital resources. See page 4.

#### 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

Little learners will naturally bow their heads and fold their hands when guided to do so. They may not totally understand the concept of prayer, but if we recognize and talk to God like we talk to others, they will grasp the basics of prayer. Encourage students to talk with Jesus daily. Then when they are older, prayer will come naturally. Teach them Jesus is their friend and they can talk to Him in prayer.

## SUPPLIES

### PREPARE THE HEART

#### Connect

- Prayer area with pillows or chairs
- Attendance poster **RK DR**, and stickers **RK DR**

#### Video Introduction

- “Our Father Prayer” **QL**
- “Children Pray the Lord’s Prayer” **QL**
- “A Fun Song about Prayer” **QL**

#### Opener

- “We Pray” poster **RK DR**

#### Toddlers

- No supplies necessary

#### Preschoolers

- Ball

### INSTRUCT THE HEART

#### Lesson Lead-In

- No supplies necessary

#### Bible Lesson

- Bible, Prayer flashcards **RK DR**

### CONNECT TO THE HEART

- “The Lord’s Prayer—Preschool” by Redeemer West Side Kids **QL**

#### Toddlers

- *Per student:* 7 blocks

#### Preschoolers

- Prayer visuals **RK DR**

#### Prayer and Response

- Letter to families, Spiritual IEP **DR**, Child Information form **DR**

- *Per student:* Little Learners Devotional and Activity Page

#### Worship

- Children’s instruments (e.g., small tambourines, triangles, maracas)
- “When I Pray” **QL**
- “When I Say Thank You” **QL**
- “Standing in the Need of Prayer” **QL**

#### Memory Work

- Series 1 MW poster **RK DR**

#### Craft Option

- *Per student:* Construction paper, tape, crayons or markers

#### Game Option

- No supplies necessary

#### Snack Option

- Oreos, milk, cups, napkins

## PREPARE THE HEART

### Connect: Let’s Pray

#### Preparation

- Set up a prayer area in the room with chairs to kneel at or pillows to kneel on.

#### Instruction

- As students enter, collect offering and record attendance.
- Invite students to kneel and pray in the prayer area as students arrive.
  - » Explain how Jesus loves to hear us pray.
- Have students recite the Truth about God (TAG): “Jesus wants us to pray like He did.”

*Application:* Today we will learn how Jesus wants us to pray. He wants us to learn to talk to Him every day for everything we need.

### Video Introduction

- When it is time to get students’ attention, consider showing a short video to introduce the Lord’s Prayer:
  - » “Our Father Prayer” by Let’s Pray with Tomkin (EWTN) **QL**
  - » “Children Pray the Lord’s Prayer” by ZonderKids **QL**
- To introduce the concept of prayer, consider showing the video “A Fun Song about Prayer” by Minno **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 2.

To learn how to access the videos provided with the curriculum, see page 3.

### Opener: What Is Prayer?

#### Instruction

- Show the “We Pray” poster **RK DR**.
  - » *Ask:* What are these children doing?
- *Ask:* What is prayer?
- *Ask:* Do you pray at home?
- *Ask:* When do you pray?
  - » Encourage prayer during meals and bedtime, but also throughout the day.
- *Ask:* Can you show me how you pray?
  - » Let students show how they pray.
- To show there is not just one right way to pray, demonstrate some ways people pray, such as standing with arms raised, sitting, kneeling, bowing, and even lying down.



*Application:* Prayer is talking with Jesus, just like I talk with you and you talk with me. Just like we may ask each other questions and talk about things that are fun or that bother us, we can talk about anything with Jesus.



**Toddlers (Ages 2–3)***Instruction*

- Have students sit in a circle around you.
- *Say:* When we pray, we are talking to Jesus. Sometimes we close our eyes, so we aren't looking around. *Students close their eyes.*
- *Say:* We put our hands in our laps, so they are still. *Students do so.*
- *Say:* Then we talk to Jesus and ask Him for what we need. *Students echo the prayer.*  
Jesus, thank You for Sunday school.  
Help us to learn about You.  
In Jesus' name, amen.

*Application:* Jesus prayed every day. In today's Bible story, we will learn about when Jesus' disciples asked Him to show them how to pray. Jesus wants us to pray like He did.

**Preschoolers (Ages 3–4)***Instruction*

- Sit in a circle with students.
- *Say:* We can stand when we pray. *Everyone stand.*
- *Say:* When we pray, we can praise Jesus by telling Him how wonderful He is.  
» Lead students to clap their hands and say, "Thank You, Jesus," or "I love You, Jesus."
- *Hold a ball and say:* Let's practice praising Jesus. We will pass around this ball. When you are holding the ball, say one awesome thing about Jesus. Then you can pass the ball to another student.  
» Hold the ball, share a praise of Jesus, and then hand the ball to a student.
- After each student praises Jesus, encourage students to applaud.

*Application:* Jesus loves to hear us praise Him. I will pray like Jesus and praise Him.

**INSTRUCT THE HEART****Bible Lesson Verse**

"After this manner therefore pray ye" (Matthew 6:9).

If you are not accessing your digital resources, you are missing out. To learn how to download the digital resources **DR**, see page 3.

**Lesson Lead-In: Getting Quiet**

- *Whisper:* Shh! Listen. . . . Do you hear that? It's quiet. Let's see what we can hear when we are really quiet.
- Cup your hands behind your ears and listen.  
» After ten seconds, comment on some of the things you heard.
- *Whisper:* We heard those things because we were quiet. When we pray, it is good to find a quiet place where nothing will bother us. It is hard to pray when a video is playing or people are talking.

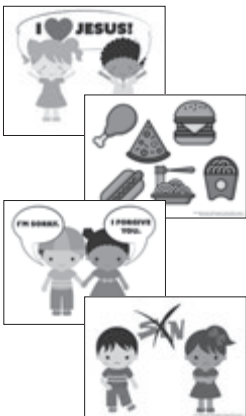
*Application:* When Jesus prayed, He liked to go up on a hillside away from all the people. In today's Bible story, we will learn about when Jesus' disciples followed Him up to His quiet prayer spot and asked Him how to pray.

**Bible Lesson: Jesus Teaches How to Pray (Matthew 6:5–15)***Preparation*

- Cut apart the Prayer flashcards **RK DR**.

*Instruction*

- Show your Bible and sing "The B-I-B-L-E."
- Open your Bible to Matthew 6.  
» *Say:* The Bible is God's storybook. Our story comes from the Bible.



*Truth for My Life: I will pray like Jesus.*

Jesus was a great teacher. He taught His followers many things. One day Jesus went up on a hillside to pray. His disciples followed Him up there, so He began to teach them. One thing He taught them was how to pray. Jesus told them to find a quiet place to pray away from other people. *Assign each student to a quiet place near you. Have students sit down by themselves and face you.*

Jesus told them not to repeat words over and over, but to talk to God like they talk to each other. God wants us to talk to Him just like we talk to our friends.

Jesus said, "Pray like this." Let's practice this prayer. *Speak in short phrases with students repeating each phrase. Follow with a short explanation.*

*Show Flashcard #1.* Dear Jesus, I praise You, for You are holy. *Students repeat each phrase after you.*

- *Say:* We should begin prayer with praise.

*Show Flashcard #1 again.* I pray Your kingdom comes and Your will be done. *Students repeat.*

- *Say:* God wants what is best for us. That's why we pray to do what He wants us to do.

*Show Flashcard #2.* Give me the food I need today. *Students repeat.*

- *Say:* We should always pray before our meals. Food is a blessing from God.

*Show Flashcard #3.* Forgive my sins and help me to forgive others. *Students repeat.*

- *Say:* We thank God for forgiving our sins. We must also be ready to forgive others who have made us mad.

*Show Flashcard #4.* Lead me away from things You don't like and are not good for me. *Students repeat.*

- *Say:* Jesus will help us make good choices if we listen to Him.

*Show Flashcard #1 again.* Thank You, Jesus. I praise You, Jesus. *Students repeat.*

- *Say:* We end our prayers by thanking Jesus.

*Students stand and praise Jesus.*

Review the story with simple questions:

- What did Jesus teach His followers? *How to pray*
- Where did Jesus say we should go to pray? *To a quiet place*
- What does Jesus want us to do when others make us mad? *Forgive them.*

## CONNECT TO THE HEART

### Praying the Lord's Prayer

#### Preparation

- Prior to class, learn or develop motions to teach students the Lord's Prayer. For ideas, consider watching the video "The Lord's Prayer—Preschool" by Redeemer West Side Kids [\(QL\)](#).

#### Instruction

- *Say:* When Jesus taught His disciples how to pray, He taught them something called the Lord's Prayer. It is good to memorize the Lord's Prayer because it reminds us how Jesus wants us to pray.
- Teach the prayer, line by line, with students mimicking your motions.
  - Our Father (*point up*) which art in heaven (*roll hands overhead and draw a high horizon*),
  - Hallowed be thy name (*place hands over heart*).
  - Thy kingdom come (*turn slightly right and point up twice with the words "kingdom come"*).
  - Thy will be done (*turn slightly left and point up twice with the words "will" and "done"*)
  - in earth (*make a three-finger W with each hand and roll them over each other*),
  - as it is in heaven (*roll hands overhead and draw a high horizon*).
  - Give us this day our daily bread (*rub belly*).
  - And forgive us our debts (*ASL for forgive (QL)*),
  - as we forgive our debtors (*ASL for forgive (QL)*).
  - And lead us not into temptation (*cross forearms to make an X*),
  - but deliver us from evil (*break the X like you are breaking chains*):
  - For thine is the kingdom (*point up*), and the power (*make muscles*),
  - and the glory (*make exploding stars with fingers*),
  - for ever (*point up with a finger and make a lasso*).
  - Amen (*form praying hands*).
- Repeat the prayer a few times with motions.

This version of the Lord's Prayer is from Matthew 6:9-13 in the King James Version.

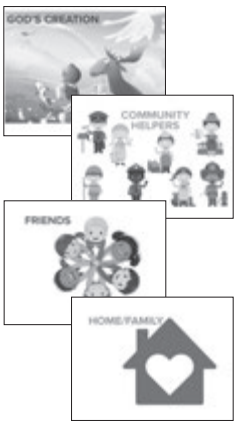
*Application:* Jesus wants us to pray like He did. When we learn the Lord’s Prayer, we learn to pray like Jesus.

### Toddlers (Ages 2–3)

#### *Instruction*

- Give each student seven blocks.
- Say a thanksgiving prayer with students echoing you.
  - » *For example, say:* “Thank You, Jesus for my family.”
  - » After the prayer, have students lay down a block.
- Say another prayer of thanksgiving with students echoing you; then have them stack another block on top of the first.
- Repeat the process until all blocks are stacked.

*Application:* We have so many things to thank Jesus for. He likes it when we pray like Him.



### Preschoolers (Ages 3–4)

#### *Preparation*

- Cut apart the Prayer visuals **RK** **DR** and mount them in separate areas around the room.

#### *Instruction*

- *Say:* Let’s go on a prayer walk. As we travel, we will come to signs that tell us what we should pray for.
- Guide students around the room to locate the visuals.
  - » For larger classes, consider breaking into four smaller groups.
- As you come to each visual, discuss what it represents—God’s Creation (things God made), Community Helpers, Friends, and Home/Family.
  - » At each visual, lead students in an echo prayer for those things.

*Application:* If we pray like Jesus, we will pray for others.

## Prayer and Response

#### *Preparation*

- Write a letter to families, sharing the methods of communication (e.g., social media, text messages, or email) you will use throughout the quarter.
  - » Explain how you would like to become partners with them in discipling their children.
  - » Consider setting up an appointment with each family to discuss and fill out the Spiritual IEP **DR**.
  - » Include information about the lessons for the quarter and any special events planned for students.

#### *Instruction*

- Have students repeat the echo prayer.
 

Thank You, Jesus, . . . for hearing my prayers.  
I can talk to You . . . about anything.  
Help me remember . . . to pray every day.  
In Jesus’ name, amen.
- Send each student home with a Little Learners Devotional and Activity Page. Explain that the page has daily activities families can use for devotional playtime.
- As parents pick up their children, use the Child Information form **DR** to collect or update student information. Take note of any allergies or special situations the staff needs to be aware of this quarter.



## WORSHIP

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

### Preparation

- Gather age-appropriate items that can be used for instruments, such as small tambourines, triangles, maracas, and so on.

### Instruction

- Give each student an instrument. Instruct students to play their instruments in worship while the music is playing.
  - » “When I Pray” by David and Stephanie Hutton **QL**
  - » “When I Say Thank You” by PPH Kids Music **QL**
  - » “Standing in the Need of Prayer” by VeggieTales **QL**

**Application:** Finish the time of praise with a prayer that focuses on Jesus loving our praise.

## GAME OPTION

### Prayer Actions

#### Instruction

- Stand in a circle with students.
- For each action, say what you are doing when praying.
  - (*Lift up hands*) Praise Jesus.
  - (*Clap hands*) Thank Jesus.
  - (*Fold hands*) Pray for needs.
- After the first time through, ask students to demonstrate what they do when you say, “What do we do when we (*praise Jesus*)?”
  - » Repeat several times.
- Students echo the Truth for My Life (TML): “I will pray like Jesus.”

**Application:** Jesus wants us to pray like He did. Let’s pray like Jesus.



## MEMORY WORK

### Series 1 Memory Verse

“Pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you” (Jeremiah 29:12).

### Series 1 Memory Words

Pray to Jesus, and He will hear.

#### Instruction

- Point at each word on the Series 1 MW poster **RK DR** as you read it with students echoing you.
- Use motions to teach the memory verse or words:

#### Memory Verse

Pray (*fold hands*)  
unto me (*sign Jesus*),  
and I (*point up*)  
will hearken unto you (*cup ears*).

#### Memory Words

Pray (*fold hands*)  
to Jesus (*sign Jesus*),  
and He (*point up*)  
will hear (*cup ears*).

- Repeat several times.

**Application:** We pray like Jesus did, and He will hear us.





## SNACK OPTION

### Yummy Treats

#### Preparation

- Prepare to serve Oreos and milk.

#### Instruction

- *Say:* Jesus gives us yummy treats. Let's thank Him for our snack.
- Lead students in prayer, and then eat snack.

*Application:* We pray for our food every time we eat. Jesus is pleased when we ask Him to bless our food.



## CRAFT OPTION

### Prayer Reminder

#### Preparation

- For each student:
  - » Fold a sheet of construction paper in half and tape it so it will not open. This will make the paper thicker.
  - » At the top of one side, draw a sun and write: MORNING.
  - » At the top of the other side, draw a moon and write: NIGHT.

#### Instruction

- Give each student a prepared paper. Trace the student's hands on each side of the paper.
- Let students color both sides of their papers.
- *Say:* Take your paper home and lay it beside your bed to remind you to pray every day. In the morning, when you see the side with the sun, pray. Then flip it over to the side with the moon to remind yourself to pray at night.

*Application:* Jesus wants us to pray like He did.



**KINDERGARTEN**

**LEADER GUIDE  
SUMMER 2024**



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





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**Kindergarten Leader Guide**

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# KINDERGARTEN LEADER GUIDE

## SUMMER 2024

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\*HS stands for Heritage Sunday

### CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



God's Word for Life Kids Community



@GodsWordForLife


# FAQS ABOUT GOD'S WORD FOR LIFE

## Is there a family devotional for Kindergarten students?

Family devotional activities are now included on the front page of the Kindergarten Devotional and Activity Pages. In addition to a learning activity and coloring page, each lesson includes a God's Word for Families home-connection section, giving parents and caregivers ideas to help children play through each lesson at home. To promote discipleship in the home, send each student home with an activity paper, and then encourage families to revisit the lesson throughout the week with these fun activities.

## 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  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 .

## 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 Kindergarten 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 Kindergarten Devotional and Activity Pages can be purchased in 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, songs, lyrics, sound effects, 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 Kindergarten 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. 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 Vimeo.
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*



## 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 on page 3.

## 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).

## What resources do I need to teach Kindergarten 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 (AP):** For each lesson, 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 **RR**:** This packet provides essential supplements to make the lesson come alive. Some lessons require materials only found in the resource kit.

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



Facebook



Pinterest

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

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

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" 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. The Little Learners LG does not have this type of supplement because the activities are typically applicable for students with special needs.

In addition, the digital resources of the Resource Kit provide a Spiritual IEP that has been developed by ABLE Ministry. By working with parents and caregivers to gather this information, teachers can better understand 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**



## 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 2–5, the relevant levels include the following:

- **Little Learners** is written for classes with a blend of toddlers and preschoolers. Ideas are given for both age groups. These children show up to church ready to play, so a variety of activities help them play through the lesson. This level's content is student-driven.
- **Kindergarten** is for children currently in preschool or kindergarten. These children have been introduced to a classroom setting but still require large amounts of playtime. This level's content is a mix of being student- and teacher-driven.

Classes with students who haven't yet entered preschool will be best served using the Little Learners curriculum. Similarly, if a three-year-old has learned to read and has entered preschool, the child may be best served using the Kindergarten material.

# 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."



#### **TRUTH ABOUT GOD**

Jesus wants us to pray like He did.

#### **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 **DR** provided in your digital resources.

*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**

Teaching young children to pray is a joy. When you model prayer in the classroom, students become comfortable with praying. Practice prayer often in the classroom. Give students opportunities to lead prayer in class. Their connections with God will grow strong.

## SUPPLIES

### EXCITE AND ENGAGE

#### Connect

- Prayer area with pillows or chairs
- Attendance poster **RKDR** and stickers **RKDR**, Series 1 MW poster **RKDR**

#### Video Introduction

- “A Fun Song about Prayer” **QL**

#### Opener

- “We Pray” poster **RKDR**, prayer area

#### Opening Option 1

- Prayer Steps **DR**

#### Opening Option 2

- Comfy chair

### RELATE AND RECEIVE

#### Lesson Lead-In

- Sandwich

#### Bible Lesson

- Prayer Sandwich Visual **RKDR**
- Table, cutting board, sandwich ingredients (2 slices of bread, lettuce, lunch meat, cheese, and pickle, toothpick)

### APPLY AND ACT

- Musical instruments or noise making objects

#### Application Option 1

- *Per student:* Prayer Sandwich handout **RKDR**
- Plastic or paper plates, aprons, safe kitchen utensils

#### Application Option 2

- Quiet Place door hangers **DR**, stickers, art supplies

#### Prayer and Response

- Prayer Sandwich visual **RKDR**
- *Per student:* Letter to families, Spiritual IEP **DR**, Child Information form **DR**, Kindergarten 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.

#### Instruction

- As students enter, collect offering and record attendance.
- 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.
- Invite students to kneel and pray in the prayer area as everyone arrives.
  - » Explain how Jesus loves to hear us pray.
- Announce the Truth about God: “Jesus wants me to pray like He did.”

*Application:* Today we will learn how Jesus wants you and me to pray. He wants us to learn to talk to Him every day for everything we need.

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.

### Video Introduction

- When it is time to get students' attention, consider showing the short video, “A Fun Song about Prayer” by Minno **QL**.

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

### Opener: What Is Prayer?

#### Instruction

- Show the “We Pray” poster **RKDR**.
- *Ask:* What are these children doing?
- *Ask:* What is prayer?
- *Ask:* Do you pray at home? When?
  - » 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.
- 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 talking with Jesus just like I talk with you and you talk with me. We may ask each other questions, and we talk about things that are fun or that bother us. We can talk about anything with Jesus.

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

- Option 1: Prayer Steps
- Option 2: A Visit with God



## 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” (Matthew 6:6).

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

### Lesson Lead-In: A Yummy Sandwich

#### Preparation

- Make a delicious looking sandwich for yourself.

#### Instruction

- *Show the sandwich and say:* For lunch, I like to eat a good sandwich.
- *Ask:* Do you like sandwiches? What ingredients do you like on your sandwiches?

*Application:* In our Bible lesson, we are going to make a sandwich as we learn what Jesus taught about prayer.

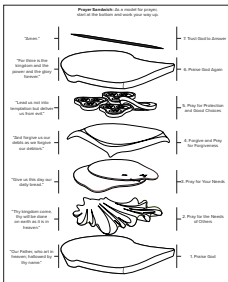
### Bible Lesson: Jesus Teaches How to Pray (Matthew 6:5–15)

#### Preparation

- Set up a table with a cutting board.
- Lay out the ingredients—bread, lettuce, lunch meat, cheese, pickle, a second slice of bread, and a toothpick.

#### Instruction

- Open a Bible to Matthew 6.
- Mount the Prayer Sandwich visual **RKDR** near the storytelling area.



Today's Bible lesson is from a Bible passage called the Sermon on the Mount. One day, Jesus was teaching a group of His followers up on a hillside. Jesus wanted to teach them how to pray. He told them, “When you pray, go into your closet, shut the door, and pray in secret.” Jesus didn't mean to literally shut yourself in a closet. He meant we should find a place to pray away from other people.

Then Jesus taught them things to say when they prayed. Today we will make a sandwich for an example on how we should pray. *Make a sandwich using the items in order as each section is taught.*

*Place one slice of bread on the board.* This bread represents praise. Jesus said to start with praise, “Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed by thy name.” *Students repeat.*

- *Ask:* What do we do when we praise Jesus?  
» *Take a moment to demonstrate praise, and then let students praise Jesus.*

*Place lettuce on the bread.* Next, Jesus wants us to pray for others and their needs. Jesus said, “Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.” *Students repeat.*

- *Ask:* Can you think of someone who needs to know Jesus? Do you know someone who needs God's help?

Jesus wants everyone to be saved and taken care of. Let's pray for the people you are thinking of. *Pray together for the needs of others.*

*Place the meat on top of the lettuce.* Next, Jesus taught us to pray for our own needs. He said, “Give us this day our daily bread.” *Students repeat.* Do you have something you need God's help with? . . . Sometimes we have big needs, and sometimes we have small needs. Jesus cares about all of them. He wants to answer our prayers and take care of us. *Pray together for the needs of students.*

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

*Place the cheese on top of the meat.* Next, Jesus wants to make sure we are right with God. He said, "And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors." *Students repeat.* Do you need to repent from anything you have done wrong? It is important to tell God you are sorry and ask Him for forgiveness. *Pray a prayer of repentance together.*

Then pray for anyone who has made you angry or sad, and try to forgive them. Ask God to help them the same way He has helped you. *Pray a prayer of forgiveness together.* Just as we are thankful that God forgave us, we must ask for His help in forgiving others.

*Place a pickle on top of the cheese.* Finally, Jesus said to pray for His protection. He said, "Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil." *Students repeat.* All of us are tempted to do wrong things. God can help us make good choices. *Pray together for God's guidance and protection.*

*Place the bread on top of the sandwich.* Do you remember what the bread meant? . . . Praise! Jesus taught us to finish our prayers with praise. He said, "For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever." *Students repeat. Again, let students demonstrate praise.*

Jesus added one little important word at the end of His prayer, "Amen." *Add a toothpick.* This means "so be it." It is a way of saying you trust God to hear and answer your prayers.

*Show the finished sandwich.* This sandwich sure looks good. Prayer was important to Jesus, and it should be important to us. Each of us should learn how to talk with Jesus through prayer.

#### *Review Questions*

- What is the first thing we should do when we pray? *Bread—Praise the Lord*
- Review what each sandwich ingredient represented:
  - » Lettuce = Prayer for others
  - » Meat = Prayer for personal needs
  - » Cheese = Forgiving self and others
  - » Pickle = Prayer for protection
- What do we finish our prayer with? *Praise and Amen.*

## **APPLY AND ACT**

---

### **Finding a Quiet Place**

#### *Instruction*

- Give students musical instruments or other *noise making* objects.
- *Say:* I want you to make noise until I say, "Quiet!" Then you must be as quiet as possible.
  - » Repeat several times then collect the items.
- *Say:* No I want you to be as silly as possible until I say, "Quiet!" Then you must sit and be as quiet as possible.
  - » Repeat several times.
- On the final time, hold the silence. In a whisper, tell the students to quietly sit.
- *Whisper:* The world can be a wild, noisy, silly place. Jesus said that when we pray, we need to "shut ourselves in a closet" by finding a quiet place to be alone with God 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 that quiet place in our minds.
  - » Demonstrate how to block out the noises around you so you can think about praying to Jesus.

*Application:* Even though we are together in this room, we can still find that quiet place to pray. By learning how to concentrate, we can be alone with Jesus just about everywhere. In our minds, we can find a quiet place to talk to Him.

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

- Option 1: Build-a-Prayer Café
- Option 2: My Quiet Place

## Prayer and Response

### *Preparation*

- Write a letter to families, sharing the methods of communication (e.g., social media, text messages, or email) you will use throughout the quarter. Explain how you would like to become partners with them in discipling their children.
  - » Consider setting up an appointment with each family to discuss and fill out the Spiritual IEP **DR**.
  - » Include information about the lessons for the quarter and any special events planned for students.

### *Instruction*

- Have students repeat the echo prayer.
  - » Using the Prayer Sandwich visual **RKDR**, lead students through the Lord's prayer.
- If necessary, ask them to repeat the echo prayer.

Thank You, Jesus, . . . for hearing my prayers.  
 I can talk to You . . . about anything.  
 Help me remember . . . to pray every day.  
 In Jesus' name, amen.

- Send each student home with a Kindergarten Devotional and Activity Page. Explain that the page has daily activities families can use for devotional playtime.
- As parents pick up their children, use the Child Information form **DR** to collect or update student information. Take note of any allergies or special situations the staff needs to be aware of this quarter.

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

## OPENING OPTION 1

### Prayer Steps

#### Preparation

- Print the Prayer Steps **DR**. Stack the steps in order.

#### Instruction

- *Say:* These steps show us how to pray.
- As you hold up each step, let students demonstrate what is written.
  - » Step 1: Find a quiet place.
  - » Step 2: Sit, stand, or kneel.
  - » Step 3: Talk to Jesus.
  - » Step 4: Thank Jesus.
  - » Step 5: Praise Jesus.
- *Say:* That was easy! We can follow these steps anytime or anywhere.

**Application:** Jesus took time to pray every day. He wants us to do the same. It does not have to take long. He just wants us to find time to pray.

## APPLICATION OPTION 1

### Build-a-Prayer Café

#### Preparation

- Bring plastic or paper plates, aprons, and other fun age-appropriate kitchen utensils.
- For each student, copy the Prayer Sandwich handout **RKDR**.

#### Instruction

- Using the kitchen gear, let students enjoy dramatic play.
- Encourage them to make a prayer sandwich using the model presented in the lesson.
- Provide the Prayer Sandwich handout **RKDR** to help them remember.

**Application:** Prayer should be a natural part of life. We can find a quiet place to pray to Jesus each day.

## OPENING OPTION 2

### A Visit with God

#### Preparation

- Place a comfy chair in the center of the room.

#### Instruction

- *Ask:* What would you tell God if you were visiting Him?
- Let students take turns sitting in the chair and sharing what they would tell God.

**Application:** We can talk with Jesus about anything. Nothing is silly or stupid when talking with Him. He cares about us and the things that we care about. He wants us to learn how to pray like He did.

## APPLICATION OPTION 2

### My Quiet Place

#### Preparation

- For each student, print a Quiet Place door hanger **DR** on cardstock and cut it out.

#### 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 Quiet Place door hanger **DR** and art supplies to decorate.
  - » Students decorate the 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 that you are praying in your quiet place.

*Truth about God: Jesus wants us to pray like He did.*



## WORSHIP

**Supplies:** Video Quick Links document **DR**, age-appropriate instruments

### Instruction

- During worship, play “Stop, Drop, and Pray.”
  - » Whenever the music stops, students should kneel and pray until the music starts again.
- Give each student an instrument. Instruct them to play their instrument in worship to the music.
  - » “The Lord’s Prayer” by Summit Kids **QL**
  - » “When I Pray” by David and Stephanie Hutton **QL**
  - » “When I Say Thank You” by PPH Kids Music **QL**
  - » “Standing in the Need of Prayer” by VeggieTales **QL**
  - » “Have a Little Talk with Jesus” by Fuzzy Pictures **QL**

**Application:** When we pray, Jesus loves to hear our praise as we worship Him.

## VIDEO REVIEW

- To review the Bible lesson, show one of these short videos:
  - » “Our Father Prayer” by Let’s Pray with Tomkin (EWTN) **QL**
  - » “Children Pray the Lord’s Prayer” by ZonderKids **QL**

**“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:** 3 index cards, marker, , Series 1 MW poster **RKDR**

### Preparation

- On three index cards, write PRAYER, SUPPLICATION, and THANKSGIVING (one word per card).

### Instruction

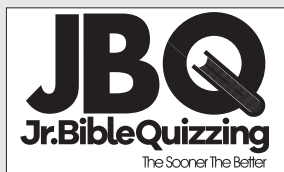
- Introduce Philippians 4:6, using the Series 1 MW poster **RKDR**.
- Choose a student to select a prepared index card, and then match it to the word on the poster.
  - » Let student give a definition for *prayer*.
  - » Explain how *supplication* means “ask.” What does *ask* mean?
  - » For *thanksgiving*, let students share examples of how to give God thanks.

**Application:** Prayer, supplication, and thanksgiving—each of these should be part of our prayers as we talk to Jesus.



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.

## GAME OPTION

### The Quiet Game

#### Instruction

- Play the Quiet Game.
  - » Let students gather in small groups.
  - » When you say, "Time for Quiet," everyone must be as quiet as possible.
  - » When one member of a group makes a noise, the entire group is out.
- Discuss why it is important to have quiet time with Jesus.

**Application:** Part of prayer is finding a quiet place to pray. Jesus wants us to find a quiet place to pray to Him every day.

## SNACK OPTION

### Prayer Sandwiches

**Supplies per student:** Two small pieces of bread, lettuce leaf, piece of meat, piece of cheese, pickle, toothpick

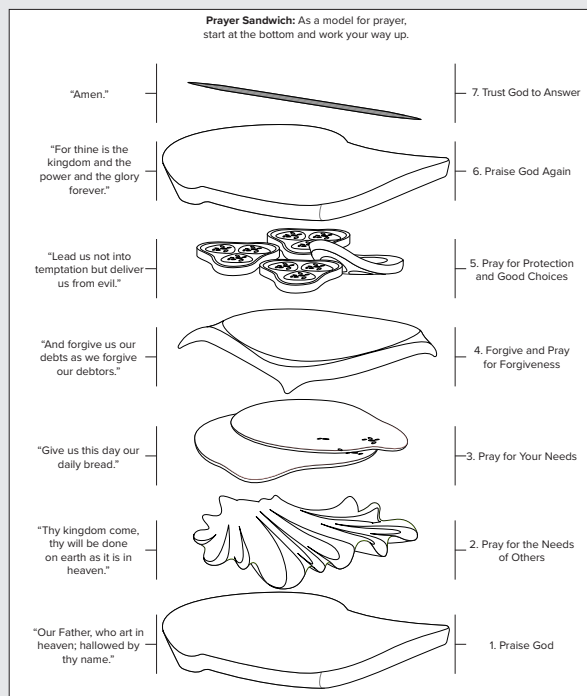
#### Preparation

- For each student, assemble a plate with the ingredients of a Prayer Sandwich.

#### Instruction

- Help students assemble their sandwich as they review the lesson.
- Pray over the sandwich and enjoy

**Application:** Each part of the sandwich should remind us how Jesus taught us to pray. Jesus wants us to find a quiet place to pray to Him every day.



## CRAFT OPTION

### Prayer Sandwich Prayer

**Supplies:** Prayer Sandwich handout **RK DR**, crayons

#### Preparation

- For each student, print a Prayer Sandwich handout **RK DR**.

#### Instruction

- Starting with the bottom piece of bread, color through the Prayer Sandwich.
  - » For each layer, review what it represents and let students demonstrate that part of the prayer.

**Application:** Each part of the sandwich should remind us how Jesus taught us to pray. Jesus wants us to find a quiet place to pray to Him every day.

**EARLY ELEMENTARY**

**LEADER GUIDE  
SUMMER 2024**



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



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Early Elementary Leader Guide

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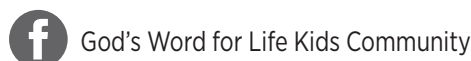
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\* HS stands for Heritage Sunday

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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?



Facebook



Pinterest

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

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

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” 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 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 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

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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  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 , 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

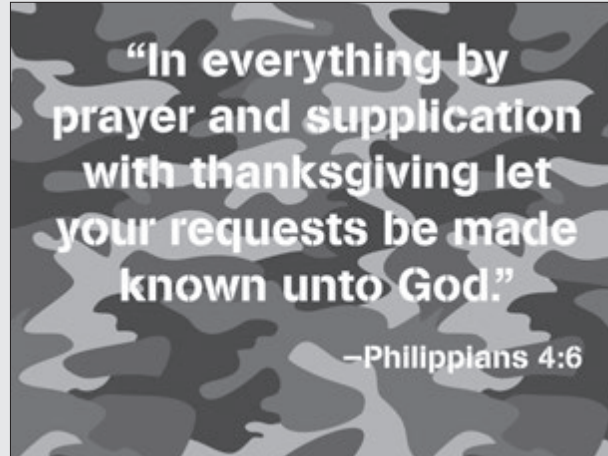
### Preparation

- 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.



## 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.

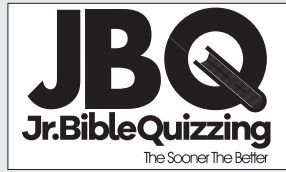
**Application:** Through prayer, God wants us to talk to Him about everything.

## 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.





**LATE ELEMENTARY**

**LEADER GUIDE  
SUMMER 2024**

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





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Late Elementary Leader Guide

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SUMMER 2024

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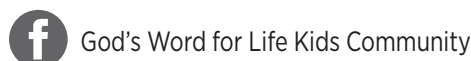
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\* HS stands for Heritage Sunday

CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



# FAQS ABOUT GOD'S WORD FOR LIFE

## Is there a family devotional for Late Elementary students?

Family devotional activities are now included as part of the Late 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 Late 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 Late 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 Late 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 Late 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 Late 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?



Facebook



Pinterest

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

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

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” 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 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 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

## SINCERE PRAYER

*Matthew 6:5-15*

### SERIES AIM

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

### SERIES MEMORY VERSES

#### **Philippians 4:6-7**

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

### 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."

Looking for classroom decor ideas? See the Classroom Decor Ideas [DB](#) provided in your digital resources. See page 5.



#### **TRUTH ABOUT GOD**

Jesus desires sincere, heartfelt prayer.

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

I will find a quiet place to pray every day.

## TEACHER DEVOTIONAL

*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

It is so important for students to develop a personal habit of prayer before they enter their teen years. Show them how a time of worship and devotion can be rewarding. Daily prayer should be much more than a duty or a religious ritual. Through prayer, our heavenly Father shares His wisdom and peace. He provides direction students cannot find from any other source.

## SUPPLIES

### EXCITE AND ENGAGE

#### Connect

- Prayer area with pillows or chairs, posterboard, marker
- My Hope Radio's prayer station **QL**
- Attendance poster **RKDR**, 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

- Gift-wrapped box with a beautiful bow

#### Opening Option 1

- No supplies necessary

#### Opening Option 2

- Sheets of paper, marker, tape

### RELATE AND RECEIVE

#### Lesson Lead-In

- No supplies necessary

#### Bible Lesson

- *Per student:* Matthew 6 handout **RK**  
**DR**
- Bible

### APPLY AND ACT

- *Per student:* Prayer Hand **RKDR**, construction paper, pencil, scissors, markers

#### Application Option 1

- Skittles candy, whiteboard and markers

#### Application Option 2

- No supplies necessary

#### Prayer and Response

- Prayer Pictures **RKDR**
- *Per student:* Late 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.
  - » Set up a posterboard with markers nearby.
- 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.
  - » Direct students to write their prayer requests on the posterboard. Requests will be addressed during Prayer and Response on page 10.
- Take attendance and collect offering.
- Using the Series 1 MW poster **RKDR**, introduce Philippians 4:6-7.
  - » Point out the words *prayer* and *thanksgiving*.
  - » Talk about how we pray and give thanks to God.
- Introduce the Truth about God (TAG): "Jesus desires sincere, heartfelt prayer."

*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. In today's lesson we will discuss different methods of prayer.

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.

### 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**.

### Opener: "Um, Thanks"

#### Preparation

- Gift wrap a box and add a beautiful bow.
- Prior to class, ask a student to present the gift to you during Opener. Instruct the student to comment that you did not appear very sincere after receiving the gift.

#### Instruction

- As you begin to teach, the prepared student should interrupt you to present the gift to you.
  - » In response you should say, "Um, thanks," acting very uninterested and ungrateful, and set the gift aside.
  - » The student should point out your insincerity.

- *Ask:* Do you agree with (*student's name*)'s observation? Should I have been more expressive and more thankful?
- Ask a few students to describe or act out a heartfelt, sincere thank you.
  - » For example, a student could act out calling a grandparent to say thanks for an awesome gift.
- *Ask:* How do you feel when someone is grateful for your gift, your time, or something you have done?

*Application:* Just like we enjoy a sincere thank you, Jesus loves to hear our sincere, heartfelt prayers. Sometimes our prayers may seem rushed and insincere. We might be distracted or in a hurry to do something else, like play a game. We might say big, important words trying to impress other people. Jesus is not interested in rushed, distracted, or pride-filled prayers. He wants us to take time and pray from our hearts.

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

- Option 1: Prayer Postures
- Option 2: Insincere Is Lava

## 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 the most famous person you have ever talked to?
- *Ask:* Would it make you nervous to talk to someone who is famous or very important?
  - » *Ask:* What would you say?
- *Ask:* How would you feel if someone famous or very important stopped to have a conversation with you?
  - » *Ask:* Do you think you would be doing more talking or more listening?

*Application:* When we pray, we are talking to the most important, famous person ever—the creator of Heaven and Earth. God hears our prayers, and if we learn to listen, He speaks back to us. In the Bible lesson, we will learn what Jesus taught His followers about how to talk to God in prayer.

### Bible Lesson: Sincere Prayer (Matthew 6:5–15)

#### *Preparation*

- For each student, print a Matthew 6 handout **RK DR**.

#### *Instruction*

- Give each student a Matthew 6 handout **RK DR**. Students will assist you with reading during the lesson.

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

*Read and discuss Matthew 6:5.* Do you think Jesus instructed people to pray this way? *Stand with an arrogant, proud posture and pretend to pray with long, elaborate words in a loud voice.* No way! How does Jesus want us to pray? *Read and discuss Matthew 6:6.* Jesus desires humble, sincere prayer. He said we should not try to impress other people when we pray.

If you are not accessing your digital resources, you are missing out. To learn how to download the digital resources **DR**, see page 3.



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

When we pray, our focus should be solely on God. It should be a personal experience that does not require a crowd or a leader. *Read and discuss Matthew 6:7–8.* Jesus said not to repeat a bunch of words over and over just to be saying words. We should keep our prayers simple and humble. God knows everything. In fact, He knows what we are going to pray before we pray. We can share everything with Him.

In verses 9–13, Jesus shared something people call the Lord’s Prayer. People like to remember these verses when they are troubled because the verses bring God’s peace. In these verses, Jesus taught how to pray. He does not expect us to recite the exact words. Rather, He gave them as an example of things we should pray about.

Read and discuss Matthew 6:9: “After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.” (*Pause.*) We should begin our prayers by honoring God with worship. We can start with greetings, like “Heavenly Father, Mighty God, or Dear Jesus.” We should praise God for who He is—our King of kings, Creator, Healer, Savior, and friend.

*Read and discuss Matthew 6:10:* “Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.” (*Pause.*) 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. We surrender our desires to the Lord, searching instead for His plan for our lives.

*Read and discuss Matthew 6:11:* “Give us this day our daily bread.” (*Pause.*) This phrase does not only mean physical food. We can ask the Lord for any need we have, and He will provide.

*Read and discuss Matthew 6:12:* “And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.” (*Pause.*) 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.

- *Ask:* What does it mean to “forgive our debtors”?

Forgiveness is a necessary part of prayer. If we will not forgive others, Jesus said we cannot be forgiven. We must forgive people who have hurt us. When we forgive others, Jesus gives us peace and comforts our hurt feelings.

*Read and discuss the first part of Matthew 6:13:* “And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.” (*Pause.*) When we pray, we should ask God to help us stay away from evil. He will help us resist temptation, foolish choices, and sin, but we must be willing to listen and obey. Jesus wants to guide us with the power of His Holy Spirit so we can overcome sin and make good choices.

*Read and discuss the second part of Matthew 6:13:* “For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.” (*Pause.*) Jesus taught us to end our prayers with worship. Heaven and earth belong to God. Through Jesus, we have the promise of eternal life. When we pray, we are asking to see His kingdom, His power, and His glory for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Then we seal our prayer by saying, “In Jesus’ name, amen.”

*Read and discuss 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*

- Does God want us to say the exact words of the Lord’s Prayer every time we pray? Why or why not?
- What did Jesus mean by “daily bread”?
- During prayer, name one thing Jesus said we do if we want to be forgiven.
- Why doesn’t Jesus want us to make a big show when we pray?
- How will you develop a habit of daily prayer?
- How will you change the way you pray after hearing this lesson?

While the second part of Matthew 6:13 is included in the KJV, many translations exclude this text, adding a footnote that it was an addition of later manuscripts. Since elementary students are not ready for textual criticism, the text from the footnotes has been added to the NLT portion of the handout.

## APPLY AND ACT

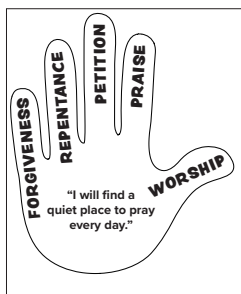
### A Place of Prayer

#### Preparation

- For each student, print a Prayer Hand (RKDR), found on the back of the Matthew 6 handout.

#### Instruction

- Give each student a Prayer Hand (RKDR), a pencil, construction paper, scissors, and markers.
- Instruct students to make their own prayer hand on the construction paper.
  - » Students use pencil to trace around their own hand.
  - » Then they cut out the handprint.
  - » Using markers, students write the words on each finger: WORSHIP, PRAISE, PETITION, REPENTANCE, and FORGIVENESS.
- Explain that *petition* means asking God for our needs and requests.
- In the center of the handprint, students write the Truth for My Life (TML): “I will find a quiet place to pray every day.”
- Pair up students.
  - » Let students share ideas for each step of prayer written on their handprints.
  - » As they do, they should fold down the finger of the word they discuss.



*Application:* Each of us should do our best to find a quiet place to pray every day. Our prayers should include words of worship, praise, petition, repentance, and forgiveness.

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

- Option 1: Skittles Prayer
- Option 2: Discussing Prayer

### Prayer and Response

#### Instruction

- Have students find a quiet place to pray.
  - » Thank Jesus for showing us how to pray.
  - » Begin with worship, praise, repentance, and forgiveness.
  - » Pray for the needs on the prayer request poster created during Connect (page 7).
  - » End the prayer with worship.
- Encourage students to find quiet times to pray in the morning, at night, and throughout the day.
- Send each student home with an Late Elementary Devotional and Activity Page.

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

## OPENING OPTION 1

### Prayer Postures

#### Instruction

- Discuss various postures of prayer, which include raising your hands, singing, kneeling, bowing your head, walking while praying and lying on the floor.
- Say: Jesus wants to hear our prayers—from whatever posture we choose.
- Play Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Pray.
  - » As you call out “head,” “shoulders,” and “knees,” students touch the called-out areas on their bodies. As you continue to call out parts, get faster and faster.
  - » On “pray,” students choose a prayer posture and freeze until you start again.

**Application:** Jesus loves every sincere posture of prayer.

## OPENING OPTION 2

### Insincere Is Lava

#### Preparation

- On paper (one word per sheet), use a marker to write synonyms and antonyms of *sincere*.
  - » **Synonyms:** honest, genuine, serious, authentic, earnest, real, true, truthful, frank, open, wholehearted, respectful, reverent, humble, heartfelt
  - » **Antonyms:** dishonest, fake, fraud, hypocritical, deceitful, two-faced, artificial, insincere, untruthful
- Tape down the sheets of paper in a scattered pattern across the floor.

#### Instruction

- Students line up on one side of the room.
- Say: Imagine the floor and the antonyms of the word sincere are hot lava. One at a time, you must cross the room by stepping only on synonyms of the word sincere. If you step on “lava,” you must return to the end of the line and wait for another try.
- Students who successfully navigate the path may return to their seats.
- Continue until all students have made it across the room.

**Application:** This game helps us understand the definition of *sincere* and how it relates to prayer. Jesus loves sincere, heartfelt prayer.

## APPLICATION OPTION 1

### Skittles Prayer

#### Preparation

- On the board, write:
 

Red = Worship	Orange = Praise
Yellow = Petition	Green = Repentance
Purple = Forgiveness	

#### Instruction

- Briefly review each part of the Lord's Prayer.
- Give each student one Skittle.
  - » Using the chart on the board, ask students to consider the part of prayer that coincides with the color of their candy. For example, the student with a green candy might consider asking God to forgive a lie.
- Let students share their ideas with each other.
- Continue the discussion, handing out additional pieces of candy, until students are familiar with each part of prayer.

**Application:** During our quiet times of prayer, we should include worship, praise, petition, repentance, and forgiveness.

## APPLICATION OPTION 2

### Discussing Prayer

#### Instruction

- 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 is important for a good night's rest.
- Ask: Do you pray at meals?
- Ask: Throughout the day, when and where should you pray?
  - » Say: 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 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.

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



## WORSHIP

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

### Instruction

- “When I Pray” by David and Stephanie Hutton **QL**
- “The Lord’s Prayer (It’s Yours)” by Matt Maher **QL**
- “Here on Earth (As in Heaven)” by First Church Worship **QL**
- “Our Father” by Ted Keith **QL**
- “I Am a Child of God” by Draylin Young **QL**
- “I’m So Blessed” by CAIN **QL**

**Application:** Jesus loves our sincere, heartfelt worship. Our prayers should include worship every day.

## GAME OPTION

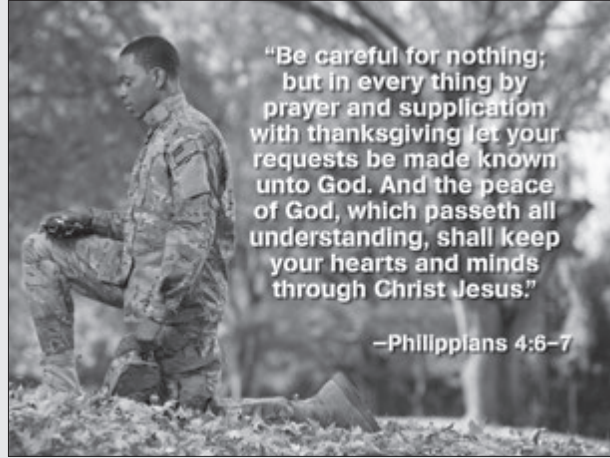
### Blessing Magnets

**Supplies:** Magnet, paper clips, timer

### Instruction

- Scatter paper clips on a table.
- Choose a volunteer.
  - » Challenge the volunteer to use a magnet to pick up as many paper clips as possible in five seconds.
  - » After time is up, the student should name a blessing from God for each paper clip.
- Choose another student, reset the timer, and continue as time permits.

**Application:** When we pray with faith and sincere hearts, we become magnets for God’s blessings.



## MEMORY WORK

**Series 1 Memory Verses:** Philippians 4:6-7

**Supplies:** Series 1 MW poster **RKDR**

### Instruction

- Using the Series 1 MW poster **RKDR**, introduce Philippians 4:6-7.
- Read the verses together several times while doing motions.

Be careful for nothing, nothing, nothing  
(*clap hands together three times*);

But in every thing by prayer and supplication  
with thanksgiving (*cross arms over chest*)

Let your requests be made known unto God  
(*point up*).

And the peace of God (*make a circular  
motion with both hands*),

Which passeth all understanding (*hold  
hands with palms up*),

Shall keep your hearts and minds (*tap your  
heart and the sides of your head*)

Through Christ Jesus (*ASL sign for Jesus*).

Philippians 4:6-7 (*clap and jump three times*)

**Application:** These verses teach us to pray rather than worry. *Supplication* means asking with a sincere heart. We can thank God in advance for taking care of our situations, because He knows what we need better than we ever will. When we keep our hearts sincere and focus our thoughts on the Lord, these verses promise God will give us peace.



*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.

## CRAFT OPTION

### Prayer Ideas Booklet

**Supplies per student:** Construction paper, white paper, stapler, markers, stickers, art supplies

### Preparation

- For each student, make a booklet:
  - » Fold a sheet of construction paper in half.
  - » Fold three sheets of white paper in half.
  - » Enclose the paper in the construction paper and staple along the fold.

### Instruction

- Give each student a booklet.
- Instruct students to design a book of ideas to guide them through prayer:
  - Page 1 = WORSHIP
  - Page 2 = PRAISE
  - Page 3 = THANKSGIVING
  - Page 4 = REPENTANCE
  - Page 5 = CONFESSION
  - Page 6 = ASKING FOR NEEDS

**Application:** You can use these booklets daily to help focus your thoughts as you pray.



## SNACK OPTION

### Orange You Glad?

**Supplies:** Oranges, knife, tray, paper plates, napkins, cups, drinks

### Preparation

- Slice oranges and place them on a tray.

### Instruction

- Ask a student to give thanks for the snack.
- Before students choose oranges for their plates, instruct them to ask each other: "Orange you glad we learned how to pray today?"
- Ask each student to share one benefit of sincere, daily prayer.
- Pray and enjoy snack.

**Application:** When we learn how to sincerely pray every day, we will stay close to Jesus and experience His love, peace, and joy.

## 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**



**KIDS' CHURCH**

**LEADER GUIDE  
SUMMER 2024**



**MOVE!**





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# MOVE!

## KIDS' CHURCH LEADER GUIDE

### SUMMER 2024

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\*HS stands for Heritage Sunday

## CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



God's Word for Life Kids Community



@GodsWordForLife



In addition to the materials shown below, each lesson also comes with the following:

- Activity Pages
- Family Devotional
- Small Group Outline
- Bible Lesson Title Slide
- Truth about God (TAG) Slide
- Truth for My Life (TML) Slide

For more information about downloading your digital resources **DR**, see page 4.

The case-sensitive download code for this Resource Kit is: **MOVESu24Salute**

To learn how to access the videos marked **QL** below, see page 4.

### GENERAL ITEMS

- Video Quick Links Document **DR**
- Special Needs Supplement for MOVE! **DR**

### SPECIALTY ITEMS

- Classroom Décor Ideas
- Easy Lesson Planner
- God's Word for Life Logo
- JBQ Games
- JBQ Quizzes

- JBQ Verses
- New Birth Poster
- Spiritual IEP
- Student Information Form

### SERIES 1

- Series 1 Memory Work (Matthew 6:9-13)
- Series Title Slide: "Jesus Teaches How to Pray"

#### Lesson 1.1

- "Jesus Teaches the Lord's Prayer" Visual
- Lava Words
- Matthew 6 Handout
- My Quiet Place Door Hanger
- Sheet Music

#### Lesson 1.2

- Gardening Tools Visual
- Help Wanted Ads
- Matthew 6:9-13 MW Strips
- "The Harvest Prayer" Visual

#### Lesson 1.3

- "Take My Yoke" Visual
- Yoked Oxen Visual

#### Lesson 1.4

- GLORY Letters
- "Jesus Prays for the Church" Visual
- Pictures of Churches
- Prayer Chain Strips

#### Heritage Sunday

- Azusa Street Visual
- Church Pie
- G. T. Haywood Handout
- Rushing Wind Sound Effect MP3
- "The Apostolic Church Is Born" Visual
- Topeka Revival Visual
- Welsh Revival Visual

### SERIES 2

- Series 2 Memory Work (John 8:12; 10:7; 14:6; 15:5)
- Series Title Slide: "Jesus—the I AM"

#### Lesson 2.1

- Happy Face
- John 8:12 MW Light Bulbs
- Light Bulbs Handout for Craft
- Lighthouse Visual
- "Sergius Paulus Becomes a Believer" Visual

#### Lesson 2.2

- Alternate Bible Lesson 2.2
- Escape Room Handout
- "Jesus Is the Door" Visual
- Psalm 23 Handout
- Shepherd Visual
- Sheep Sound Effect MP3

#### Lesson 2.3

- "Find the Truth" Cards
- Game Stations
- Hiker Skit
- Path to Heaven Clue Cards
- "Peter and John Testify" Visual
- Road Signs
- Station Directions

#### Lesson 2.4

- "Jesus Is the True Vine" Visual
- Stages of a Tomato Visuals
- Station Signs
- Vine Fruit Game Cards

### SERIES 3

- Series 3 KJV Memory Work (Galatians 5:22-23)
- Series 3 NLT Memory Work (Galatians 5:22-23)
- Series Title Slide: "Full of the Spirit"

#### Lesson 3.1

- Detective Skit
- Fig Visual
- Fruitful Tree Outlines
- Fruit of Faith and Forgiveness
- Happy Fruit Pictures
- "Jesus Curses the Fig Tree" Visual

#### Lesson 3.2

- *A Fruitful Life* MP3 Collection (9 songs)
- Fruit Match Handout
- Fruit of the Spirit Prompts
- Fruit Outlines
- Galatians 5:16-26 Summaries
- "Good or Rotten?" Apples
- "The Fruit of the Spirit" Visual

#### Lesson 3.3

- Bible Lesson Gift Tags
- Bible Verses about God's Gifts
- Ephesians 4:11-12 Handout
- Scrambled Gifts
- "The Gifts of the Spirit" Visual

#### Lesson 3.4

- Fast Food Slogans Quiz
- "Good Apple?" Visual
- Love Heart Visual
- "Love in Action" Scenarios
- "Love Is the Greatest" Visual

Items in this Resource Kit may only be copied for use in the local classroom. Do not reproduce, distribute, or transmit any other part of the God's Word for Life curriculum in any form or by any means, including photocopying, recording, or other electronic or mechanical methods, without obtaining prior documented approval from Pentecostal Resources Group. To request permission, contact [customerservice@pentecostalpublishing.com](mailto:customerservice@pentecostalpublishing.com).



# FAQS ABOUT GOD'S WORD FOR LIFE

## How do the family devotional and activity pages work?

To encourage discipleship at home, each lesson comes with a two-page family devotional as part of the digital resources. Print this weekly resource to send home with students, or send it digitally to families each week through email or social media. This will allow families to study the lesson taught in the classroom and then look for opportunities to apply God's Word in their daily activities. With your students' discipleship as the goal, please take the time to look into this incredible resource.

In addition, each lesson has a set of activity pages to print for each student. These activities can be done in class or sent home with students. They are a fun way to reinforce the lesson.

If you prefer not to print the MOVE! digital resources every week (which can be tedious and expensive), because God's Word for Life is a whole-church curriculum, the Devotional and Activity Pages for both Early Elementary and Late Elementary correspond with the lessons in this Leader Guide. Provide your students with the devotional and activity pages that correspond to their grade level—Early Elementary for grades 1–3 and Late Elementary for grades 4–6. The cost for each set of activity pages is \$5.49. The activities in these resources are different from the ones provided with this MOVE! curriculum.

## 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 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 begin 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 melding 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 .

## 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. Unless noted otherwise (to make the lesson age appropriate), 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 MOVE! curriculum can still be used on its own.

## LEGEND

AP	Digital Activity Page	MW	Memory Work
DR	Digital Resource	QL	Video Quick Links document
	Kit Item	TAG	Truth about God
LG	Leader Guide	TML	Truth for My Life

### What does DR mean in the lesson?

A DR icon means this item is provided in the digital resources. To access this material, 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 here.

### What is Junior Bible Quizzing?

God's Word for Life is pleased to partner with UPCI Children's Ministries to present Junior Bible Quizzing (JBQ) 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).

### How do I download my digital resources?

After purchasing your MOVE! curriculum, you can download your digital resources DR 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 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 link in Order History.
- *Option 4:* Visit: <https://pentecostalpublishing.com/downloads> and follow the instructions. The download code for this quarter's digital resources is: **MOVESu24Salute**

### 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 downloading the digital resources (see instructions above), one of the first files is the Video Quick Links PDF, which is specific to the MOVE! 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 provided 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 Vimeo.
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 we felt it 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 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" . 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" 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 that has been developed by ABLE Ministry. By working with parents and caregivers to gather this information, teachers can better understand 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 resources do I need to teach MOVE! kids' church?

MOVE! kids' church provides three options for purchasing the Leader Guide:

### **Print + Digital Leader Guide (\$49.95)**

- Printed Leader Guide
- Digital Leader Guide PDF
- Digital Leader Guide Word Docs
- Digital Resource Kit
- Digital Family Devotional
- Digital Activity Pages

### **Print Leader Guide (\$39.95)**

- Printed Leader Guide
- Digital Resource Kit
- Digital Family Devotional
- Digital Activity Pages

### **Digital Leader Guide (\$39.95)**

- Digital Leader Guide PDF
- Digital Leader Guide Word Docs
- Digital Resource Kit
- Digital Family Devotional
- Digital Activity Pages

# FAQS ABOUT GOD'S WORD FOR LIFE

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

Tailor every option and idea 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 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.



# FALL 2024 A LOOK AHEAD

**GOD'S  
WORD**  
FOR LIFE  
kids

## Series 1

### Jesus, Our Savior

To investigate Jesus' journey to the cross by studying John 11-13.

## Series 2

### Salvation in Acts

To investigate God's plan of salvation by studying key passages in the Book of Acts.

## Series 3

### The Book of Romans

To investigate and apply key passages from the Book of Romans.

## DEVOTIONAL AND ACTIVITY PAGES

Kids love action, and the Devotional and Activity Pages give students a way to engage more deeply with each lesson's teaching concepts. In addition, it gives them something to take home so parents can reinforce what they learned in class with daily devotions to be done at home as a family. If you're not yet using the Devotional and Activity Pages, these colorful supplements make a great addition to your teaching resources.



**MOVE!**

## 11

**WHEN I PRAY***Matthew 6:5-15***SERIES AIM**

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

**SERIES MEMORY VERSES****Matthew 6:9-13**

"Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us 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, for ever. Amen."

**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."

Looking for classroom decor ideas? See the Classroom Decor Ideas **DR** provided in your digital resources.

**TRUTH ABOUT GOD**

Jesus wants His disciples to learn how to pray.

**TRUTH FOR MY LIFE**

I will find a quiet place to pray every day.

**TEACHER DEVOTIONAL**

*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**

Make prayer exciting, fun, and age appropriate as you teach your students about prayer. Teach them to use their own words to talk to Jesus, just as they would talk with a friend. Allow them to use up energy in demonstrative praise and worship. Engage students in prayer actions, such as kneeling to pray, journaling their prayers, and walking as they pray. Help them apply the concepts taught in the Lord's Prayer. Then watch as your students become mighty prayer warriors.

# SUPPLIES

## EXCITE AND ENGAGE

### Connect

- Prayer area with pillows or chairs
- My Hope Radio's prayer station **QL**
- Helper dressed as Pharisee
- TAG 1.1 slide **DR**, Series 1 MW slide **DR**

### Video Introduction

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

### Opener

- Lava Words **DR**, tape

### Opening Option 1

- Puppet or stuffed animal

### Opening Option 2

- No supplies necessary

## RELATE AND RECEIVE

### Lesson Lead-In

- Sheet Music

### Bible Lesson

- Bible Lesson 1.1 slide **DR**
- *Per student:* Matthew 6 handout

## APPLY AND ACT

- TML 1.1 slide **DR**, Series 1 MW slide **DR**

### Application Option 1

- *Per student:* Construction paper, pencil, scissors, markers

### Application Option 2

- No supplies necessary

### Small Group Breakout

- Small Group 1.1 outline **DR**

### Prayer and Response

- *Per student:* Letter to families, Spiritual IEP **DR**, Student Information form **DR**, Family Devotional **DR**, Activity Pages **DR**

# EXCITE AND ENGAGE

## Connect

### Preparation

- Set up a prayer area with chairs to kneel at or pillows to kneel on.
- Establish a peaceful atmosphere that encourages prayer, perhaps dimming the lights and playing instrumental worship music, such as My Hope Radio's prayer station **QL**.
- Recruit a helper to dress as the praying Pharisee. This person will stand near the prayer area praying loudly in a braggadocious way as students attempt to pray.

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 3.

### Instruction

- As students arrive, invite them to kneel and pray in the prayer area.
  - » Encourage students to ignore the praying Pharisee.
  - » When you are ready to teach, have the helper stop.
- Record attendance and collect offering.
- *Ask:* How did the praying Pharisee make you feel? Do you think the Pharisee was praying correctly or incorrectly?
- Introduce the Series 1 MW slide **DR**—Matthew 6:9–13.
  - » Read it slowly with students echoing each phrase.
- Introduce the TAG 1.1 slide **DR**: "Jesus wants His disciples to learn how to 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**.

To learn how to access the videos, see page 4.

## Opener: Insincere Is Lava

### Preparation

- On sheets of paper, print out the Lava Words **DR**.
- Create a path across the floor by taping down the sincere words—GENUINE, HONEST, HEARTFELT, HUMBLE, I LOVE YOU, OPEN, PLEASE, REAL, RESPECTFUL, REVERENT, THANK YOU, TRUE, TRUTHFUL, WHOLEHEARTED, and YOU'RE WELCOME.
- Among the sincere words, scatter the insincere words—ARTIFICIAL, DECEITFUL, DISHONEST, FAKE, FRAUD, GIVE IT TO ME, HYPOCRITICAL, I HATE YOU, INSINCERE, SHUT UP, TWO-FACED, UNTRUTHFUL, and YOU'RE STUPID.



*Instruction*

- *Say:* We say many words every day. Talking with other people is part of life. We can use sincere (right) words or insincere (wrong) words when we communicate.
- Have students line up on one side of the room.
- *Say:* Imagine the floor and insincere (wrong) words are hot lava.
  - » One at a time, you must cross the room by stepping only on sincere (right) words.
  - » If you step on lava, you must return to the end of the line and wait for another try.
  - » If you successfully navigate the path, you may return to your seat.

*Application:* Just as we can identify right and wrong ways to talk, we can also recognize right and wrong ways to pray. Jesus loves sincere, heartfelt prayer. Today we will learn how to pray as Jesus taught.

For additional Opening Options that use different teaching styles, see page 13:

- Option 1: How Not to Pray
- Option 2: The Postures of Prayer

**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***Preparation*

- Print the Sheet Music **DR**.

*Instruction*

- Show the Sheet Music **DR**.
  - » *Ask:* What is this? Does anyone know how to read it?
- *Ask:* Can we create music without reading the sheet music? *Yes*
- *Say:* We can follow the sheet music, or we can play music on our own. If we were learning to play piano, our instructor would give us sheet music to teach us to play. Eventually we would be able to play without the sheet music.

*Application:* In today's Bible story, we will learn what Jesus taught about prayer. His instructions are similar to sheet music, showing us how to pray. Just like sheet music can make it easier to learn how to play music, Jesus' instructions make it easier to learn how to pray.

**Bible Lesson: When I Pray (Matthew 6:5–15)***Preparation*

- For each student, print a Matthew 6 handout **DR**.

*Instruction*

- Display the Bible Lesson 1.1 slide **DR**.
- Give each student a Matthew 6 handout **DR**. Students will assist you with reading during the lesson. Before discussing each verse, read it in the King James Version (KJV) first, and then in the New Living Translation (NLT).



*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 teach a message called the Sermon on the Mount. Matthew chapters 5–7 contain the things Jesus taught the people. In Matthew 6, Jesus taught them how to pray.

*Read and discuss Matthew 6:5.* Is this how Jesus instructed people to pray? *Stand with an arrogant, proud posture and pretend to pray loudly with long, elaborate words.* No way!

How does Jesus want us to pray? *Read and discuss Matthew 5:6.* Jesus desires humble, sincere prayer. He said we should not try to impress other people when we pray. When we pray, our focus should be solely on God. It should be a personal experience.

*Read and discuss Matthew 6:7–8.* Jesus said not to repeat a bunch of words over and over. We should keep our prayers simple and humble. God knows everything. In fact, He knows what we are going to pray before we pray. We can share everything with Him.

In verses 9–13, Jesus shared something people call the Lord’s Prayer. In these verses, Jesus taught how to pray (like sheet music). He does not expect us to recite these exact words. Rather, He gave this prayer as an example of things we should pray about.

*Read and discuss Matthew 6:9:* “After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.” (Pause.) We should begin our prayers by honoring God with worship. We can start with a greeting like “Heavenly Father,” “Mighty God,” or “Dear Jesus.” We should praise God for who He is—our King of kings, Creator, Healer, Savior, and friend.

*Read and discuss Matthew 6:10:* “Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.” (Pause.) 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. We surrender our desires to the Lord, searching instead for His plan for our lives.

*Read and discuss Matthew 6:11:* “Give us this day our daily bread.” (Pause.) This request does not only mean physical food. We can ask the Lord for any need we have, and He will provide.

*Read and discuss Matthew 6:12:* “And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.” (Pause.) 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.

- Ask: What does “forgive our debtors” mean?

Forgiveness is a necessary part of prayer. If we will not forgive others, Jesus said we cannot be forgiven. We must forgive people who have hurt us. When we forgive others, Jesus gives us peace and comforts our hurt feelings.

*Read and discuss the first part of Matthew 6:13:* “And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.” (Pause.) When we pray, we should ask God to help us stay away from evil. He will help us resist temptation, foolish choices, and sin, but we must be willing to listen and obey. Jesus wants to guide us with the power of His Holy Spirit so we can overcome sin and make good choices.

*Read and discuss the second part of Matthew 6:13:* “For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.” (Pause.) Jesus taught us to end our prayers with worship. Heaven and earth belong to God. Through Jesus, we have the promise of eternal life. When we pray, we are asking to see His kingdom, His power, and His glory for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Then we seal our prayer by saying, “In Jesus’ name, amen.”

*Read and discuss 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

- Who gave us an example of prayer? *Jesus*
- Does God want us to say the exact words of the Lord’s Prayer every time we pray? Why or why not?
- Whom was Jesus teaching when He gave the example of prayer? *His followers*
- Is it better to pray in a large crowd so people can see and hear you or in a private place? *A private place*
- Why doesn’t Jesus want us to make a big show when we pray?
- What did Jesus mean by the term “daily bread”? *Daily needs*
- How should we start and end our prayers? *With praise, worship, and by acknowledging God’s sovereignty*
- Why is forgiveness important in our prayer? *We need to forgive to be forgiven.*
- From what should we ask to be delivered? *From evil or temptation*

While the second part of Matthew 6:13 is included in the KJV, many translations exclude this text, adding a footnote that it was an addition of later manuscripts. Since students are not ready for textual criticism, the text from the footnotes has been added to the NLT portion of the handout.

## APPLY AND ACT

### The When and Where of Prayer

#### Instruction

- Read the TML 1.1 slide **DR**: “I will find a quiet place to pray every day.”
- *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?
- As a class, use the Series 1 MW slide **DR** to read Matthew 6:9–13 together.
  - » *Say*: People memorize the Lord’s Prayer so they can pray these words to find God’s peace during times of trouble. That is why the Lord’s Prayer is our memory work for the next few weeks.

*Application*: Jesus gave us an example to follow as we learn to pray. 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 13:

- Option 1: A Place of Prayer
- Option 2: Loud to Quiet

### Small Group Breakout

#### Instruction

- For each small-group leader, print a lesson 1.1 Small Group outline **DR**.
- Form small groups for a ten-minute breakout session.

### Prayer and Response

#### Preparation

- For each student, print the Family Devotional **DR** and Activity Pages **DR** for this lesson.
  - » Consider setting up an appointment with each family to discuss and fill out the Spiritual IEP **DR**.



#### Instruction

- Lead students through each segment of the Lord’s Prayer.
  - » Worship the Lord for His goodness.
  - » Pray God’s will be done this week.
  - » Ask Jesus to supply the needs of every student.
  - » Lead in repentance and a prayer of forgiveness toward others.
  - » Ask the Lord to deliver each student from evil.
  - » Acknowledge that Jesus is God and in control of all things.
- Send each student home with the Family Devotional **DR** and Activity Pages **DR** for this lesson.
- Use the Student Information form **DR** to collect or update student information.
  - » Note any allergies or special situations the staff needs to be aware of this quarter.

*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 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 prayers need 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

### A Place of Prayer

#### Instruction

- Give each student a sheet of construction paper, a pencil, scissors, and markers.
- *Say:* Each of you will make a prayer hand.
- Students use pencil to trace around their own hand and cut it out.
  - » On each finger, students use marker to write: WORSHIP, PRAISE, PETITION, REPENTANCE, and FORGIVENESS.
  - » Explain that *petition* means asking God for our needs and requests.
- On the palm of the handprint, students write the Truth for My Life (TML): “I will find a quiet place to pray every day.”

**Application:** Each of us should do our best to find a quiet place to pray every day. Our prayers should include words of worship, praise, petition, repentance, and forgiveness.

## OPENING OPTION 2

### The Postures of Prayer

#### Instruction

- *Ask:* What is prayer?
  - » *Ask:* Do you pray at home? When do you pray?
  - » *Ask:* Can you show me how you pray? *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 just one right way to pray, demonstrate various postures of prayer, which include raising your hands, singing, kneeling, bowing your head, walking while praying, lying on the floor, or praying silently in a crowd or at your desk.
- *Say:* Jesus wants to hear our prayers—from whatever posture we choose.

**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, faithful God. We can also share our hurts, problems, and concerns with Him. When we are done praying, nothing should be 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 could you find a quiet place?
- *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 wants His disciples to learn how to pray.*

## WORSHIP

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

### Instruction

- While listening to upbeat worship music, demonstrate different worship actions (e.g., jumping, running, raising hands, clapping, waving).
  - » “When I Pray” by David and Stephanie Hutton **QL**
  - » “The Lord’s Prayer (It’s Yours)” by Matt Maher **QL**
  - » “Here on Earth (As in Heaven)” by First Church Worship **QL**
  - » “Our Father” by Ted Keith **QL**
  - » “Child of God” by Draylin Young **QL**
  - » “I’m So Blessed” by CAIN **QL**

**Application:** Jesus loves our sincere, heartfelt worship. Our prayers should include worship every day.

## 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 every day to share with Jesus what is in our hearts.

## GAME OPTION

### The Quiet Game

### Instruction

- Play the quiet game.
  - » Let students gather in small groups.
  - » When you say, “Time for quiet,” everyone must be as quiet as possible.
  - » When one member of a group makes a noise, the entire group is out.
- Discuss why it is important to have quiet time with Jesus.

**Application:** Part of prayer is finding a quiet place to pray so we can focus on Jesus. Jesus wants us to find a quiet place to pray to Him every day.



## MEMORY WORK

**Series 1 Memory Verses:** Matthew 6:9-13

**Supplies:** Small flag, Series 1 MW slide **DR**

### Instruction

- Introduce the Series 1 MW slide **DR**—Matthew 6:9-13.
- Form six groups. Assign one phrase to each group:
  - » “Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.
  - » Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.
  - » Give us this day our daily bread.
  - » And forgive us 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, for ever. Amen.”
- Have students sit together in their groups.
  - » Use the flag to signal which group should stand and say their phrase. Once finished, they should sit down again.
  - » Increase the speed as groups get comfortable with their phrases.

**Application:** Knowing the Lord’s Prayer is important. Once we memorize it, we can always remember the example of prayer Jesus taught His followers.

## 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.

## OBJECT LESSON OPTION

### No Bragging Here

**Supplies:** Balloon

### Preparation

- Be sensitive to students who may be startled by the popping balloon. Consider warning them ahead of time, and then providing noise-cancelling earphones as needed.

### Instruction

- *Say:* As we learn to pray, we use our breath and voice to talk with Jesus. *Blow air into the balloon and pinch the nozzle while teaching.*
- *Say:* The more we talk with Jesus, the more we grow. *Inflate the balloon completely.*
- *Say:* Be careful! The Jewish leaders knew how to pray, but forgot why they were praying. *Add more air.*
- *Say:* They began to pray to make themselves better than other people. *Add more air.*
- *Say:* They were showing off and bragging as they prayed. *Add more air.*
- Continue inflating until the balloon pops.

**Application:** We do not pray so other people see us. We pray to talk sincerely to Jesus and allow Him to talk to us.

## CRAFT OPTION

### Prayer Ideas Booklet

**Supplies:** Construction paper (1 sheet per student), white paper (3 sheets per student), stapler, markers, stickers, art supplies

### Preparation

- For each student, make a booklet:
  - » Fold a sheet of construction paper in half.
  - » Fold three sheets of white paper in half.
  - » Enclose the paper in the construction paper and staple along the fold.

### Instruction

- Give each student a booklet.
- Instruct students to design a book of ideas to guide them through prayer:
  - Page 1 = WORSHIP
  - Page 2 = PRAISE
  - Page 3 = THANKSGIVING
  - Page 4 = REPENTANCE
  - Page 5 = CONFESSION
  - Page 6 = ASKING FOR NEEDS

**Application:** You can use these booklets daily to help focus your thoughts as you pray.

## 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.