

{ Dinnertime Devotionals }



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Weekly Theme: Prayer

Verse #1: Matthew 6:5-6

(I use the ESV Bible for these devotionals. Questions are based on that text.)

Jr. Discussion Starter: What is a hypocrite and a synagogue? Jesus is teaching his followers about prayer. What did you learn from these verses?

Discussion Starter: Why did Christ encourage his followers to pray in private? Use the back of this page to record the things you pray for this week.

Verse #2: Matthew 6:7-8

Jr. Discussion Starter: What are “empty phrases” and Gentiles? The point—pray with meaning. Explain to your young child why we pray about certain things and what various words mean.

Discussion Starter: Which is more pleasing to God? A long prayer with many fancy words or a short prayer with simple words that comes from the heart. What are you praying about this week? Is it the same as last month or are you praying about what is on your heart today?

Verse #3: Matthew 6:9-10

Jr. Discussion Starter: Was Jesus teaching his followers to repeat this specific prayer or was he giving it as an example? How does Jesus address God? What else can we learn from this?

Discussion Starter: The Lord’s model prayer was an example, not a prayer to be repeated again and again. What is the harm in saying the same prayer again and again? How did Jesus start his prayer? How does his respect in addressing God go against some popular terms for God today?

Verse #4: Matthew 6:11-13

Jr. Discussion Starter: What is a debt, debtor, and temptation? Was Jesus praying for a great feast or just enough food to get by? Was He praying to be rich or to be at peace? How does God lead us away from temptation?

Discussion Starter: Did God promise his followers a Porsche and a jet? We are told if we have food and clothes we should be happy. How is this reflected in the Lord’s prayer? How is this reflected in your own prayers?

Verse #5: Matthew 6:14-15

Jr. Discussion Starter: What does it mean to forgive someone? Have you ever forgiven someone? How does God forgive us?

Discussion Starter: Why do you think forgiveness is mentioned right along with this example prayer? Forgiveness changes us as people. God gave us the ultimate example of forgiveness. Can you see forgiveness in your prayers this week?