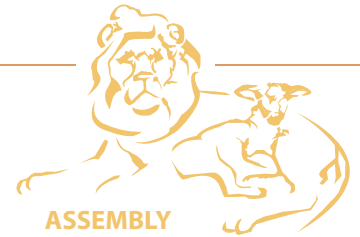


THE LORD'S PRAYER
SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: MATTHEW 6:5-15



The following are some ideas for creative ways that you can present this material.

LESSON IDEAS

PARTS OF THE LORD'S PRAYER

Ask the children to remember all the parts of the Lord's Prayer and see if they understand why we should pray for the various concerns.

- Hallowed be your name – God is holy and His name should be honored.
- Your kingdom come – God is a king and His kingdom has been affected by the fall of man. God is coming to restore His kingdom. When we pray for the coming of His kingdom we are asking God to destroy sin and regain what was affected by the fall.
- Your will be done – When we pray that God's will be done we are placing ourselves in agreement with God and giving up what we want that does not agree with what he wants.
- Give us this day our daily bread – By asking God for our food we are recognizing that all of our provision, our food and drink are gifts of His grace. This keeps us from falling into the prideful thought that we produced or provided it for ourselves apart from God.
- Forgive us our debts or sins – We need God's forgiveness for our sins.
- Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil – We are weak and without God's grace cannot stand up to temptation. Praying for His help shows our dependence on God.

THE LORD'S PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: MATTHEW 6:5-15

MEMORIZE THE LORD'S PRAYER

Take time in class to review the Lord's Prayer. Since it is a specific pattern of prayer we have been given, all Christians should have this passage memorized.

PRAY IN CLASS

Lead the children in a time of prayer. First pray out things that will give worship and praise to God. Then, ask for prayer requests and have children pray their requests out loud. Finally, end with the Lord's Prayer.

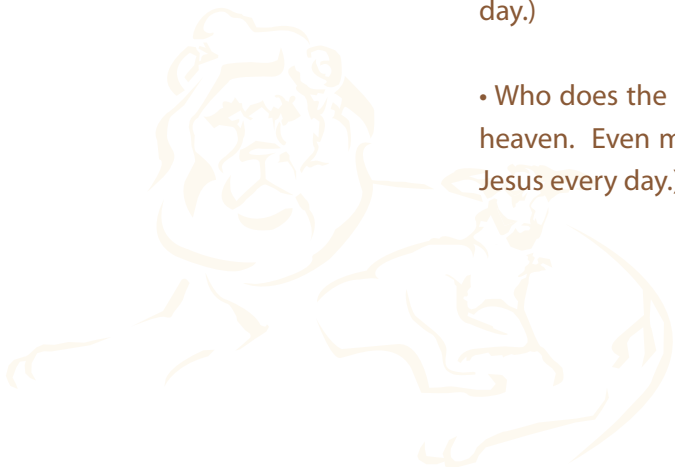
DAILY BREAD

Supplies:

a loaf of bread

Show the children the loaf of bread and then ask them the following questions:

- What is this? (That is a loaf of bread.)
- If I took this home, how long would I be able to keep it? (They will give all kinds of answers.)
- After about a week, what happens to bread that you don't eat? (It gets moldy and stale and dries out.)
- How long do you think this bread would last if I fed it to my family? (Maybe one day.)
- Why do you think God tells us to pray for daily bread? (Bread doesn't last very long and we need God to help us every day and give us food to eat every day.)
- Who does the Bible say is our bread from heaven? (Jesus is our bread from heaven. Even more than we need to eat food every day, we need to trust in Jesus every day.)



THE LORD'S PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: MATTHEW 6:5-15

DON'T STEP ON MY TOES

Have one of the teachers purposefully but discretely step on another teacher's toe. Have the other teacher cry, "Ouch, you stepped on my toe!" The offending teacher should say all kinds of things like, "Why was your toe there?" "It didn't feel like a toe." And, "So, what do you want me to do about it?" The person whose toe was stepped on should just keep on saying, "But you stepped on my toe." Then have the teachers turn to the class and ask them these questions.

- What do you think we should do about our problem? (The person who stepped on your toe should say he is sorry and ask forgiveness.)
- What should I say in return? (You should forgive him for stepping on your toe.)
- Where do we learn that we should forgive others? (From the Bible and in the passage we read today.)
- Why should we forgive others? (We should forgive others because Jesus has forgiven us.)



THE LORD'S PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: MATTHEW 6:5-15

WHERE IS the Gospel?

Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.

When Jesus prayed that God's kingdom would come and His will be done, He was praying for His own death to be accomplished. Jesus prayed at the garden prior to His crucifixion for the cup of suffering to pass, but only according to the will of His father. Jesus came as a servant, lived a sinless life and then gave up His life so that we could be delivered from temptation and evil. Apart from the work of Christ, the Lord's Prayer would be meaningless.

Forgiveness would not be possible if it were not for Jesus' death on the cross. God can forgive us because the penalty for our sin has been taken by Jesus. Hebrews 9:22 tells us that without the shedding of blood there can be no forgiveness. The Lord's Prayer would be meaningless if Jesus were not to die on the cross to make forgiveness possible.

It is through Jesus' sacrifice that we are adopted and we can call God our Father. It is because of Jesus that God's mercy comes to us in the form of daily bread rather than judgment. And because of Jesus' sacrifice we can be delivered from evil.

