

My (Lord's) Prayer

By Lee Yates



Many Christians can recite the Lord's Prayer from memory. This makes the prayer both special and easy to take for granted. What do the words mean? What are we really praying for when we pray these words? It is time to look at the words and make them our own.

For

Teen Family

Season

Summer

Needed

Bible, bookmarks or slips of paper, My (Lord's) Prayer worksheet (see last page), pens or pencils



Prepare in Advance

Place bookmarks in your Bible at Matthew 6:9-14 and Luke 11:1-4. Make a copy of the My (Lord's) Prayer worksheet for each family member.

Activity Plan

1. Gather as a family and begin with prayer:

All-knowing God, bless us as we gather to explore your Word and pray. Amen.

2. Ask a family member to read aloud Matthew 6:9-14 and Luke 11:1-4 from your Bible or from the text at the end of this activity. Compare these two Bible passages with the version of the Lord's Prayer your family or your church uses most often. Discuss your favorite parts of the Lord's Prayer and any parts you wish you could change.
3. Give each person a copy of the My (Lord's) Prayer handout and a pen or pencil. Allow enough time for each person to complete the worksheet. Make sure no one feels rushed. Remind everyone that this is not "mad-libs," and ask them to be serious about it.
4. After everyone has finished the worksheet, ask family members to tell about what they wrote. Make sure not to judge anyone's work.
5. Close by praying your family's prayers. You can pray them all at the same time (don't worry about the parts where the words don't match) or one at a time.

Matthew 6:9-13

⁹ Pray then like this:

"Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.

¹⁰ Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread,

¹² and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.

¹³ And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

Luke 11:1-4

¹ Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." ² And he said to them, "When you pray, say:

"Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

³ Give us each day our daily bread,

⁴ and forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us.

And lead us not into temptation."



My (Lord's) Prayer

- My favorite name for God:
- The place where I feel God's presence most strongly:
- My favorite thing about God is:

My Prayer

O _____, *who is in* _____, *you are* _____.
(favorite name) (place) (favorite thing)

- I hope for _____.
- I need _____.
- Forgive me for _____.
- Help me forgive others for _____.
- Help me deal with _____.
- Protect me from _____.

God, you are all I need, now and always. Amen.

