

Luke 11:1-13

Persistently Practice Prayer

Scripture: Luke 11:1-13

Memory Verse: Luke 11:2-4 *“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.”*

Lesson Focus: As our title says, we will teach the kids to persistently practice prayer as we teach through the Lord’s Prayer.

Activities and Crafts: Coloring Picture of Lord’s Prayer, Word Search of different terms from lesson, Bring it Home Discussion for 3rd – 5th.

Craft for 1st/2nd Grade: Praying Hands

Gift for ALL kids: Lord’s Prayer bookmark (**Teachers:** We will leave these in your classroom and please hand them out to kids at some point during the lesson) *

Starter Activity: Aladdin Movie Clip

We will have all of the kids stay in the Summit Room after worship. Many of the kids have seen the live-action Aladdin movie that came out a few years ago and we are going to watch a scene from that movie (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1at7kKzBYxI>) to get us thinking about prayer. A few questions we will ask after the video:

Q: What is going on in this scene? A: Aladdin just found the “magical” lamp. After he rubbed it, the genie came out and granted Aladdin three wishes.

Q: Wouldn’t that be nice to have three wishes and get whatever YOU want? (What would you wish for?)

Q: But is there a problem with this? Yes! It is all about YOU! * This is just glorified SELFISHNESS! It assumes YOU know what is best for you!

While we laugh and have fun watching movies like this, we need to be careful that the ideas in these movies do not twist our understanding of what we KNOW is true. For example, we might confuse REAL praying with what is going on in this movie. We might think we can say a few “magic words” and expect God to do what WE want! * But is that how prayer works? BALONEY! *

As we continue in Luke, Jesus is going to show us what REAL prayer looks like. And we will find that it is a lot different AND a lot better than what we see in this video! Let’s take a look!

Bible Study:

Luke 11:1: We have seen Jesus praying a lot already in the gospel of Luke (i.e. **Luke 5:16, Luke 6:12**). And now one of the disciples asks Jesus to teach them about prayer.

Q: What is a teacher? A: Someone who knows an important subject well enough to instruct students about it.

Q: What is a student? A: Someone who is learning from the teacher about that subject. Jesus is the teacher and He is going to teach us about prayer. These disciples were eager to learn. Are you ready to learn to?

Luke 11:2-4: This is a famous passage of Scripture known as the “Lord’s prayer”. Some of you might even have it memorized. * While it is good to memorize it, it is even more important to know what it means. Let’s be good students and learn what each line means.

Our Father in heaven: Jesus teaches us WHO we are to pray to...God the Father!

- This is very personal. We come before God as our Papa. *
- Dads are who boys look up to and who girls trust to take care of them.
- Some of you might have bad Dads who have failed you. But God will not!
- “In heaven” teaches how our God and Father is King of the universe. Wow! *

Hallowed be Your name: While He is our Abba Father, He is also holy, holy, holy!

- We must come before God with the utmost respect!
- Q: Why do we often fold hands when we pray? A: It is not because God listens to us better with folded hands, but because we can better stay focused and show our respect to God!

Your Kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven:

- Q: Whose kingdom? Yours? Mine? A: NO! Jesus teaches us that prayer is to be centered not on what we want, but on what God wants! *
- Like in Aladdin, sometimes we can wrongly think prayer is just what we want. *
- So far, Jesus has taught us that prayer is an invitation to humbly, but boldly draw near to the One true and living God seeking what He wants for us.

Give us day by day our daily bread: And as we draw near, we make our requests to Him.

- But notice Jesus emphasizes our day-to-day needs, like food.
- He is teaching us to be conscious of our daily dependence on God. *

And forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us:

- Just as our bodies need daily bread, our souls need daily forgiveness!
- This forgiveness is made possible only by Jesus’s death on the cross!
- And forgiven people, forgive people! * When we truly understand how great our sin is and that God has forgiven us, we are able to forgive others. And must do so!

And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one:

- Jesus wants us to “prepare for battle” with prayer. *
- Q: What is temptation? A: The urge to do something, often something wrong/bad.
- Prayer helps us say NO to sin and YES to God! *

This is Jesus’s model for prayer. Maybe you don’t know how to pray? Memorize this prayer and remember what each verse means! Recite it then in faith and in relationship with God! Jesus ain’t done teaching though so let’s see what else He has to say on prayer.

Luke 11:5-7: Jesus now tells a story to teach another lesson about prayer. Imagine yourself in the story.

Q: If you had a friend that came pounding on the door at midnight asking for something, would you be a little annoyed? A: You bet! And I'm sure your parents would be annoyed if the whole house was disturbed. * (**Teachers:** Consider acting this out with a few kids. Have a few kids pretending to sleep and then have another go outside the room and after a few seconds start pounding on the door asking for something. Then ask those sleeping how they would feel!)

Luke 11:8: Jesus then says that by being persistent, the friend will get what he needs.

Q: What does it mean to be persistent? A: You don't give up! And this is Jesus's point. He wants us to **persistently practice prayer!** * Persistently draw near to Him in faith. Persistently seek His will. Persistently ask Him for your daily needs. Persistently ask Him to help you battle against sin.

Luke 11:9-10: Persistently ask, seek, and knock! Jesus makes it very clear that God is eager to answer prayer. But we have to be careful we don't confuse this with the genie in the lamp from Aladdin! * He is not saying persistently "rub the lamp" so you just get what you want, but persistently come before God in relationship and expect Him to give you the good things that He wants to give you! *

Luke 11:11-12: Jesus continues to use stories to teach this lesson about trusting that our heavenly Father will give us good things.

Q: What are some things on your Christmas lists? While you might not get everything you want, you will only get "good" gifts (i.e. no poisonous snakes or scorpions).

Luke 11:13: Jesus wraps His teaching on prayer up by showing much more we should expect from God when we **persistently practice prayer!**

Key Point: Let's go back to the video we watched at the beginning. In that silly song, the genie said to Aladdin, "*You ain't never had a friend like me*". This song gives us the idea that the best kind of friend is one who just gives us whatever WE want. But is that really the best kind of friend?

While God is not a genie that is going to give you whatever you want, it is true that "***you ain't never gonna find a better friend than Him!***" In fact, He is more than a friend. He is our loving, heavenly Father and Papa. There "ain't no one" like Him or better than Him!

But He is your loving, heavenly Father only if you are a believer in Jesus Christ, His only Son. Those are the one's whom God calls His own children. If you are not a believer in Jesus Christ, become one today! Then like the rest of us, you can **persistently practice prayer** and know that the King of the whole universe hears you and delights to give you good things according to His will.

BRING IT HOME

Read Luke 11:2
What does "Your will be done" mean?



Read Luke 11:9-10
What is something you can persistently pray about this week?

Parent Signature:

Parent Challenge:
Let's memorize the Lord's Prayer together.

