

For the Family

Last week and this week we're talking about and memorizing the model prayer that Jesus gave to his disciples in Luke 11:2-4. Last week: God and His Kingdom. This week: God's people.

Read Together Luke 11:1-4

Explain how Jesus taught his disciples this simple little prayer. We can learn to pray by starting with his words, and then learning how to pray in our own words.

Explain how God wants us to talk to him every day, through prayer. This prayer helps us learn how to do that.

Work together on learning the first part of the prayer:

Give us each day our daily bread

And forgive us our sins

For we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us.

And lead us not into temptation

Try to learn it so you can say it without looking; then talk together about each part:

Daily Bread – This is a way to show God that we trust him to provide everything we need. We ask him for our needs and for the needs of others. Talk with your children about what their daily needs would be, and how well God has provided for them.

Forgiveness – Asking for forgiveness means we know we have done something wrong, and we need God to forgive us. It means we are sorry for making a wrong choice, and we are asking for a second chance to make the right choice.

Temptation – God gives us the ability to know right from wrong and the power to make good choices. We ask him to protect us from the evil in the world, and help us make right choices.

Pray together the model prayer. Then, if you can, lead your family in prayer by praying the ideas of the prayer in your own words.



*The Journey of Discipleship
Luke 9-19*

Hypocrisy, Fear, and Confessing Christ

Luke 12:1-12

Our Story So Far – Luke 9:51-11:54

- Jesus sets his face to go to Jerusalem and fulfill his mission.
- He sends messengers into Samaria, but they are rejected.
- He sends out 72 missionaries, who return with stories of their authority over demons. Jesus commends them, and tells them he saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.
- A lawyer asks him what he must do to inherit eternal life. He says, "Love God with all you have, and love your neighbor as you love yourself." Jesus agrees and tells him to go and do it.
- He tells the parable of The Good Samaritan, showing that loving your neighbor means helping those who are in need.
- Jesus visits Mary and Martha's house. Mary sits at his feet like a disciple, showing that loving God includes listening to him.
- Jesus' disciples ask him to teach them to pray. He gives them a model prayer, and teaches the importance of being persistent in prayer.

Last Week: Jesus drives out a demon from a mute man, enabling him to speak. While some people are amazed by Jesus' power and authority, others challenge him. Some say he did this by the power of the chief of demons himself. Others seek additional signs from him. Jesus responds to both arguments. Jesus attends a dinner at a Pharisee's house. The Pharisee notices that Jesus did not perform the ceremonial washing before dinner. Jesus announces three woes on the hypocrisy of the Pharisees, and three woes on the burdensome legalism of the lawyers. The Pharisees and the lawyers plot to trap Jesus into saying something they can use against him.

This Week's Story: Luke 12:1-12

Read Luke 12:1-12 and discuss the following questions:

Hypocrisy

1-3

Why do you think the crowds are growing?

Who is Jesus speaking to in this section?

Why does Jesus warn his disciples about hypocrisy?

What is your reaction to knowing that everything done in secret will be revealed?

How does hypocrisy on the part of Christians hinder the kingdom of God?

What can you do to add authenticity to your daily life?

Fear

4-7

Who does Jesus say we should not fear? Why?

Who does Jesus say we should fear? Why?

How does fearing God lead to "fear not" (vs. 7)?

Where would you put yourself on the scale below?

Fearing People Fearing God

What can you do to make sure you have a healthy fear of God?

Confessing Christ

8-12

How are fear and acknowledging Christ connected?

In what ways can we acknowledge Christ in our daily lives?

In what ways can we deny Christ in our daily lives?

How can we trust the Holy Spirit to help us?

What can you do to acknowledge Christ in your daily life?

Peter and John Before the Sanhedrin Acts 4:1-22

Read Acts 4:1-22 and discuss the following questions:

Why were the priests upset with Peter and John? 2

What was the priest's accusing question? 7

Notice that Peter was "filled with the Holy Spirit" when he spoke to them. How do you think that helped Peter?

Summarize the content of Peter's speech. 8-12

What was the priests' and Sadducees' reaction? 13

What was their dilemma? 14-17

What was their judgment against Peter and John? 18

What was Peter and John's response? 19-20

What was the conclusion to this story? 21-22

Putting it All Together

This story illustrates what Jesus talked about in Luke 12. Peter and John:

- Were authentic in their proclamation about Jesus
- Were more fearful of God than people
- Acknowledged their faith in Jesus before people

Next Steps:

- I will be authentic in my relationship with God and others.
- I will cast my cares on God because I know he loves me.
- I will speak up for Christ when given the opportunity.
- I won't be discouraged in sharing Christ with others, but continue to pray that they will come to know him.

Memory Verse – Luke 12:8

And I tell you, everyone who acknowledges me before men, the Son of Man also will acknowledge before the angels of God.