



Jesus Teaches on Prayer

Matthew 6:5-13

When Jesus was on Earth, He noticed many people in the temple were doing good things and praying long prayers (point to the men in color), but they were doing it only to make other people look at them. They were not (shake head “no”) doing or saying these things because they loved God.

If you think this is what God wants, show me thumbs up. But if you think this is not what God wants, show me thumbs down. (Allow responses)

Let's keep reading to find out!



*Jesus told the people that this is not (shake head “no”) what God wants.
Jesus said that God cares about who we are when no one else is looking.*

*Of course it’s OK to pray in front of others, but it’s even better to find a
place to get quiet, open up your heart, and talk to God by praying.*

*Jesus knew that His followers could use some help knowing how to pray, so
He taught them this prayer.*



Let me hear you say this after me: (Pause to allow kids to repeat each phrase)

***“Our Father in heaven,
we pray that Your name*** (point to the word “God”)
will always be kept holy.

We pray that Your kingdom (point to the picture of heaven)
will come.

***We pray that what You want
will be done,
here on Earth*** (Point to the earth)
as it is in heaven.”

***When we pray this, we are telling God that we believe He is our Father,
and His name is so special. We are also asking Him to let us see on Earth
what He would want to happen.***



But there was more to the prayer Jesus taught the people. Let me hear you say this after me: (Pause to allow kids to repeat each phrase)

“Give us the food (point to the food)

we need for each day.

Forgive the sins

we have done,

just as we have forgiven (point to the picture of friends)

those who did wrong

to us.”

When we pray this, we are asking God to give us what we need for every day, like food to eat. We are also asking God to forgive us when we sin, or do wrong things. And we are telling God that we will forgive others when they do wrong things to us.



As He finished praying, Jesus said that we can ask God to keep us from doing wrong things.

(Point to the picture of the boy hitting)

Is this boy doing what's right or what's wrong? (Wrong)

You got it! It is wrong to use our hands for hitting others.

Jesus also said that we can ask God to protect us from the wrong things other people do.

(Point to the picture of the person yelling)

Have you ever had someone do something wrong to you, like yelling at you?
(Allow responses)

I have, too. We can ask God to protect us from the wrong things others do.



Amen

A cartoon illustration of a young girl with dark hair in a bun, wearing a purple shirt and dark pants, kneeling on a purple oval rug with her hands clasped in prayer. To her left, a brown cat with black spots sits on a blue cushion. To her right is a brown bookshelf with various books, a green storage bin, and a small red and white rocket ship on top. The background is a light pink wall with vertical stripes, and the floor is brown.

When we finish praying, we say, “Amen.”

Let me hear you say, “Amen.” (Everyone will say, “Amen”)

That’s it! We say that to show we believe what we have prayed, and we believe that God will hear it.

When we open up our hearts to God and pray, our friendship with God grows! Let me hear you say this after me! (Pause to allow kids to repeat)

I Can (thumbs to chest)

Open Up (make praying hands)

My Heart (pat heart)