

Jesus Teaches His Disciples to Pray

Matthew 6:5-13

Jesus gave his followers several tools for prayer. Today we're going to learn more about these tools and how to use them. We're going to look at ways to pray. In Matthew 6:9-13 Jesus told his disciples a prayer that we call the Lord's Prayer. Jesus gave his followers the gift of this simple model for prayer so that they could speak to God in their own way. God wants to hear from us; it doesn't matter if we know all the "right" words to use. Jesus' prayer gives us a good example to follow as we talk to God.

When Jesus told his disciples how to pray, he wasn't saying it was the only way to pray. He was simply showing them how to praise God, ask for forgiveness and for daily needs, and for God's will to be done. Today we pray in much the same way even though our circumstances are different. The Lord's Prayer provides a way to pray for different people and circumstances in our lives as well as for ourselves. We can see the effects and results of the Lord's Prayer all around us every day.

Matthew 6: 9-13 (KJV)

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Prayer Room Door Hanger:

We're going to make our own special door hanger to turn our bedrooms into prayer rooms to help us remember to spend time with God. Use your Prayer Room door hanger for your prayer time. Hang it on your bedroom door knob or somewhere in your room when you would like to spend quiet time talking with God.

Supplies:

One 4 x 5 1/2 piece of construction paper or print of door hanger template (see below), scissors
yarn or string, hole punch
markers, colored pencils, or watercolors

If you are not using the template, cut a 4 x 5 1/2 rectangle out of paper. Punch two holes in the top edges for the yarn to hand up your Prayer Room Door Hanger. Color your door hanger with markers, paints, crayons on the front and back. Write the words: "Prayer in Session" or "Shh...I'm Praying" on the front.



