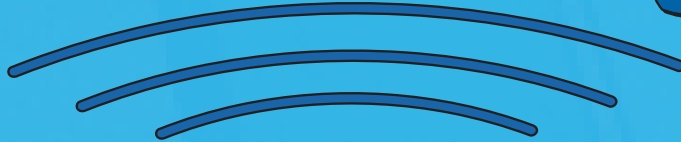


# Bible Lessons Handbook



NEW VISION  
CHILDREN



# Teaching Children

God desires to use you to impact others for eternity, and your Rock the Block will provide plenty of opportunities to do that. So, by all means, prepare yourself personally to be used by God (2 Tim 2:20-21). Walk closely with Him in prayer. Enjoy Him. Read, even memorize His Word. Live mindful of His presence, and let that be evident in the way you live. Confess and genuinely forsake anything in your life you know is not pleasing to God. And, do these things, not only for the ministry period of Rock the Block, but because this is the purpose for which God saved you.

Prepare your lessons well and you and everyone in your hearing will be glad you did. Before even approaching a lesson, ask God to use the truths of the lesson in your own life. Then, carefully read and re-read the lesson's key Bible passage. Then read multiple times. To provide a fuller understanding of the key passage, read the entire context, which may include the chapter or surrounding chapters. Read the entire lesson plan while underlining main truths. Then re-read the lesson plan making notes about how you will present the material. You are free to make the lessons your own. Please don't feel restricted to every word of the Bible lessons.

As you prepare, try to think like a child. Consider how children will hear and visualize the passages and your words. Anticipate their assumptions and questions based on concrete thinking. For instance, if you read Revelation 21:4, "He will wipe away every tear from their eyes ...," when a young child hears these words, she pictures these words in her mind and then wonders, "Does that mean every tear wiped away from every eye of every person in heaven? Wow! That's a lot of tissues." Thinking like a child helps us anticipate thoughts like this so that we can help children have a clearer understanding of what we are teaching.

When preparing the Bible lessons, we tried to break down the truth without dumbing it down. To dumb down a truth the teacher removes, or even distorts, so much of the truth's essence that the truth becomes truth-barren or worse, the teaching becomes heresy. However, to break down the truth, the teacher not only keeps the essence of the truth intact but also carefully sheds light on the truth by explaining it in terms familiar to children.

- **Be animated.**
- **Appeal to children's vivid imaginations.**
- **Be sincere.**
- **Be you.**
- **Have fun!**

When reading Scripture, always do so from an open Bible. This helps children see the Words you are reading are not your own, but God's. Occasionally allow the children to read aloud the lesson's Bible passages. This practice helps children see they don't have to be afraid of the Bible or think the Bible is only for adults.

The lessons have been prepared to offer a very low-prep approach requiring few, if any, items or preparation. Throughout the lessons, however, you may notice optional features included enhancing the experience, but these are not essential. Please refer to the Rock the Block Site Host Handbook for additional guidance related to teaching, communicating the Gospel to boys and girls, etc. At any time, if you have a question, please feel free to reach out to the Rock The Block Team. We are committed to helping your team have the most beneficial outreach experience possible.



# Lesson 3

**Text:** Matthew 6:5-13

**Bottom Line:** I can talk to God by praying.

## What You Say:

(Give a brief welcome back and introduce yourself.)

Today, we are going to learn about prayer. Before we begin learning about prayer, I want you to take a minute and think about a genie, a genie that lives in a lamp. Think about the shiny decorated lamp bottle. Think about how powerful the genie is. What happens once you rub the lamp? The genie pops out and will grant the new master 3 wishes. Sounds pretty amazing, doesn't it?

A lot of people think this is how prayer works. We talk to God and ask Him for whatever we want and He is supposed to give it to us, but that's not exactly true. Today we are going to learn about what prayer is and how we should pray.

Let's open our Bible to **Matthew 6**.

Before I read, I want us to think about what is going on in this true Bible story. Jesus, the Son of God, is talking to some of His special friends called disciples, and they asked Him a question. They asked Him to teach them how to pray. Here is what Jesus had to say:

<sup>5</sup> "And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. <sup>6</sup> But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. <sup>7</sup> And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. <sup>8</sup> Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

<sup>9</sup> "This, then, is how you should pray:

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

<sup>10</sup> your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

<sup>11</sup> Give us today our daily bread.

<sup>12</sup> And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

<sup>13</sup> And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.’

Jesus cared about His disciples so much that He wanted them to understand what prayer is and how to pray. Let's go back through the true Bible story and break it up to see what all of those words mean.

<sup>5</sup> "And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. <sup>6</sup> But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. <sup>7</sup> And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. <sup>8</sup> Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

Verse 5 through 8 teach us that when we pray, we don't need to do it to get the attention of others or just try to be cool. We need to pray humbly talking to God from our hearts.

<sup>9</sup> "This, then, is how you should pray:



“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

Remember who you are talking to. When we are praying, we are talking to the God of the universe. We need to show Him respect.

<sup>10</sup> your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

It’s not about what we want, but what He wants. He created us, and He knows best.

<sup>11</sup> Give us today our daily bread.

Today our daily Bread. Not for tomorrow, or for the year, but just for today. Just what we need. Not what we want. He isn’t a genie. Not give me give all I want, But god please give me what I need today.

<sup>12</sup> And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

Confess your sins to God. Tell him when you messed up. He already knows. Be honest with him, and don’t ask God to do something for you that you won’t do for someone else. We need to offer the same forgiveness to others that God gives you. Remember that none of us deserve God’s forgiveness.

<sup>13</sup> And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.’

Ask God to help you not Sin. The evil one is Satan. We cannot resist the tricks of Satan on our own, but God can give us the power to. We just have to trust God and ask Him to help us.

Even though God already knows what we need, he tells us to pray and spend time with him. Our hearts and minds should be on what he wants for us, not necessarily what we want. Jesus then teaches his followers a model prayer, one we call “The Lord’s Prayer” today. The prayer that we just read is to help us remember how to pray to God.

You may be fearful when it comes to prayer. We want you to know that Prayer is talking to God. There is no special formula, but there is a way that we should not pray. We should not pray so that others would see us and think we are great. We should pray so others would see God and know He is great. We should pray thanking God for who He is and all He has done. We should pray for other people and for forgiveness of sins. Often, we should pray alone, just like Jesus did. Truthfully, when we pray, we should be thinking more about God than ourselves; then, we should honestly and earnestly speak to him as our Father. In this way, we obey what God teaches in how we should pray - in a way that glorifies him.

Our bottom line today is: **I can talk to God by praying.** (Have children repeat it after you.)

**Gospel:** Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross (his death) made the way for us to be able to go to and talk to God anytime we want. You can talk to God any time, about anything, anywhere. The most important thing to talk to God about is telling Him that you want to accept Jesus as your Savior and put your trust in Him as your Lord.

You have done a great job listening and learning today. Let’s say our bottom line one more time together, **I can talk to God by praying.**

Now let’s **pray.**

