LESSON SNAPSHOT

BOTTOM LINE:
God wants us to pray to Him.

OBJECTIVE:
Kids will learn that prayer allows us to talk to a holy and loving God.

KEY PASSAGE:
Matthew 6:9 & Isaiah 6:1-8, Isaiah's Commission

MEMORY VERSE:
"This is how you should pray. Our Father in heaven, may your name be honored. May your kingdom come. May what you want to happen be done on earth as it is done in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, just as we also have forgiven those who sin against us. Keep us from sinning when we are tempted. Save us from the evil one." Matthew 6:9-13 (NIrV)

SUMMARY:
God is great and holy – Isaiah got to see that firsthand with God on a glorious throne surrounded by angels. God is so holy and awesome and the fact that He would even allow us to pray to Him is amazing. But that same God who is the most awesome and powerful being in the universe, not only allows us to talk to Him, but also to call Him "Father", because He loves us.

SIMPLE PRAYER:
Dear God,

Thank you for the awesome love you've shown us.

In Jesus' name,
Amen

MEMORY VERSE

"This is how you should pray. Our Father in heaven, may your name be honored. May your kingdom come. May what you want to happen be done on earth as it is done in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, just as we also have forgiven those who sin against us. Keep us from sinning when we are tempted. Save us from the evil one." Matthew 6:9-13 (NIrV)

"This, then, is how you should pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And for-give us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but de-liver us from the evil one." Matthew 6:9-13 (NIV)

"Pray like this: Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy. May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us today the food we need,
and forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us. And don't let us yield to temptation, but rescue us from the evil one." Matthew 6:9-13 (NLT)

"After this manner therefore pray ye: 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, for ever. Amen." Matthew 6:9-13 (KJV)

LARGE GROUP:
Divide the room into girls and boys. Have the boys read the verse aloud, and then have the girls read it aloud. Who can read the loudest?

SMALL GROUP:
Split the verse up into sections, as many as you have kids in the group. Give each child a section to read or recite. See how well your group can read the verse together!

SKIT

OUR FATHER…

ITEMS NEEDED:
Sleeping bags and pajamas

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN:
2F

CHARACTERS:
Lily and Alice - Two friends having a sleepover

Lily and Alice enter.

LILY: Okay, Alice, show me how to pray.

ALICE: All right. Let's get on our knees.

They kneel on their sleeping bags.

LILY: Why do we get on our knees? Is the reception better on our knees than on our feet?

ALICE: No, but getting on our knees reminds us that we need to bow before God. He is, after all our Creator, and the King of Kings, and the Lord of Lords.

LILY: Wow, that makes him sound pretty important.

ALICE: Very important.

LILY: Are you sure it's okay we talk to Him? I mean, it's not like I can just call up the president or, you know, the girl who played Captain Marvel.

ALICE: I assure you, it's okay.

LILY: Okay, how do we start?

ALICE: Well, we start the prayer by calling His name. Do you want to give it a try?

SKIT

LILY: Me? *(swallows hard)* I guess I can try.

ALICE: Go for it.

LILY: Oh King of Kings! Oh mighty Lord of Lords! Oh great and powerful one who created the mountains and rivers and, and the otters and polar bears.

ALICE: Lily?

LILY: Hear the voice of me, Lily Patterson, and my friend Alice Riley, who says it's total ly okay we do this even though I'm still not so sure.

ALICE: Lily?

LILY: You are the Grand Poobah! The Big Kahuna! The Big Cheese! The Head Honcho!

ALICE: Lily!

LILY: Do you think He heard me?

ALICE: I'm sure He did. But you don't have to be that formal.

LILY: But you said He's a big deal. I mean He did create the mountains and the polar bears, right?

ALICE: Yes He did. He also sent His Son Jesus to save us from sin, and He's making a beautiful home for us in Heaven.

LILY: So He is the Big Kahuna!

ALICE: Absolutely, but He kind of prefers… Father.

LILY: Father? Just plain Father?

ALICE: Just plain Father. He doesn't want us to be afraid to speak to Him like we speak to our own parents. That's why Jesus began His prayer with, Our Father, who lives in Heaven, holy is your name.

LILY: That is a lot simpler. I feel less silly saying that than Big Cheese and Head Honcho.

SKIT

ALICE: The amazing thing about God is that He cares enough to listen to our individual prayers. Yes, He is the Almighty God. But He's also our Father, and He loves us and always has time for us.

LILY: Okay, let me try this again. *(praying)* Hey, God? It's me. Lily. I know you're super great and the Big Kahuna and all, but Alice says I can call you Father. Is that okay?" *(to Alice)* Is that okay?

ALICE: Lily, you're off to a great start.

OBJECT LESSON OR KIDS SERMON

ITEMS NEEDED:
Some mail/envelopes addressed to you

Bring in a few pieces of mail – some addressed to you by name, some junk mail addressed to "re-sident", and if you have one saved, a wedding invitation.

You can often tell what's in a piece of mail by the address on the front. For example, if you get something addressed to "Occupant" or "Resident," it's a good bet what's inside is not a personal item, but a piece of advertising. An envelope addressed to you or your parents with just first and last name could be a friendly letter from a friend, or it could be a bill. When you see someone add "Mr." or "Ms." or another title, you know it's something a little more formal like a business correspondence or a wedding invitation.

Jesus begins the Lord's prayer by teaching us we don't have to be formal with the Lord. Even though the scripture calls him King of Kings and Lord of Lords, Jesus teaches us that God wants to be our Father, our Dad. He doesn't want us to fear speaking to Him directly. He loves us, and He wants us to know He is available any time we call His name.

God is almighty and all-powerful, but He is also our Heavenly Father. What a privilege we have to speak directly to the God who made us!

LARGE GROUP GAME

AIR MAIL

ITEMS NEEDED:
A mailbox
Paper

INSTRUCTIONS:
This is a game for everyone - or at least as many as you can have do this in the allotted time. Give all the kids a piece of paper. Have them fold paper airplanes, then let the kids try and throw their airplane into an open mailbox sitting on the edge of a table from 5-6 feet away.

VARIATION:
An alternate game for two players is to give them a stack of 10 envelopes and see who can throw the most into the mailbox from 3-4 feet away.

WHAT'S THE POINT?
God wants us to address Him as our Father.

LARGE GROUP LESSON

BOTTOM LINE:
God wants us to pray to Him.

OBJECTIVE:
Kids will learn that prayer allows us to talk to a holy and loving God.

KEY PASSAGE:
Matthew 6:9 & Isaiah 6:1-8, Isaiah's Commission

INTRO:
How many of you will walk into the classroom tomorrow, pass by your teacher's desk, and address them by their first name? Anyone? Let's say your teacher is named John Smith. Would any of you have the guts to walk into class and say, "Hey, Johnny! How was your weekend? Did you have fun grading all those papers, John Boy?"

I'm not surprised I don't see any hands on this. We're taught from day one in school how to address our teachers. Teachers are adults, and they have a role of authority over us. We would never call John Smith, second grade teacher, by his first name, and we sure wouldn't call him John Boy. His name is Mr. Smith, and we best not forget it.

There are many people in our lives we address with formal titles. If you went to the office of Joseph Donaldson, D.D.S, to get your teeth cleaned, you wouldn't hop in the seat and say, "Hello, Joe. What do you know?" You'd call him by his proper title: Dr. Donaldson. The man went to dental school to earn that title, and it's respectful to address him as doctor when you pay him a visit.

Your basketball coach, Adeline Johnson, might not have gone to school for coaching. She may just be a volunteer. But you wouldn't call her Addie! You would address her in the way she wants to be addressed, as Coach Addie, or Coach Adeline, or Coach Johnson.

We are used to addressing important people by important titles, whether it's Mister, Miss, Doctor, Coach, or even Pastor. If the queen of England walked in, we'd address her as "Your Royal Highness," and if the president walked in, we would call him, "Mr. President." So what are we to do when we get on our knees and pray to the Lord? How do we address the man Isaiah met in a vision, written about in his book?

LARGE GROUP LESSON

READ ISAIAH 6:1-8

MAIN POINT:
Isaiah saw the Lord in all His glory. He fell on his face and worshipped God. He was afraid. Yet Isaiah had the privilege of speaking directly to the Lord and receiving a call to serve God. Isaiah's vision left no doubt God is almighty and powerful, but it also shows us something amazing. Unlike the kings and queens and presidents of our world, God is approachable.

Jesus gave us a name we can use to address this almighty all-powerful God. It's how we begin the Lord's Prayer, and it's how we can begin every prayer. It's a name God wants us to use so we are not afraid to speak with Him.

READ MATTHEW 6:9

God wants to be our Heavenly Father. He wants us to come and speak to Him like we would a loving parent. Why? Because He loves us! God is all-powerful, and He is almighty, but He loves us all individually. He wants to have a relationship with us, and it's His pleasure to listen whenever we pray.

DRIVE IT HOME:
Why does it matter that we can call God our Father and not Your Majesty? Because the way we address people sets the tone for how we speak with them. We speak very differently with our families than we do our teachers. We are much more formal, more "grown up" in the way we speak to people we address as Mr. and Mrs. compared to the people we address as Mom and Dad. The names we use for people determine how we speak to them.

Let's go back to our dentist for a moment. If you were at the office of Dr. Joseph Donaldson, D.D.S., you certainly wouldn't speak to him like you would your friends. You'd call him Dr. Donaldson. If he asked you questions, you'd answer them with, "Yes, sir," and "No, sir," and be on your best behavior.

But what if Dr. Joseph Donaldson, D.D.S., was more than just a dentist? What if he was also your grandpa? Would you be so afraid to speak to him? Would you joke around with him? You'd probably smile a whole lot more, even when he had you in the examination chair. Yes, Dr. Joseph Donaldson, D.D.S., is a dentist. Yes, he has medical degrees and a very serious job to do. But he's also someone you know and trust, someone who loves you deeply.

God is the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords. He is our Creator. He is the one person who can save us from our sins. And yet, He wants to be our Father. He wants us to know that He's never too busy to listen.

LARGE GROUP LESSON

He wants us to come to Him and not be afraid to speak what is on our minds.

How amazing is it that the God of Heaven wants us to talk to Him? When we pray, we can address Him as Father. We can be confident that He loves us and will listen to every word we say. We have a holy and loving God, and even though He holds the whole universe in His hands, He wants us to address Him simply as Father.

CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:
Dear God,

Thank you for the awesome love you've shown us.

In Jesus' name,
Amen

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

ICEBREAKER:
How many of you refer to your grandparents by a name other than grandma and/or grandpa?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:
Matthew 6:9-13
Split the verse up into sections, as many as you have kids in the group. Give each child a section to read or recite. See how well your group can read the verse together!

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:
Let all the kids make paper airplanes, and see whose can fly the farthest.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:
Read Isaiah 6:1-8

Who was Isaiah?

What did Isaiah see in Heaven?

What did God say, and how did Isaiah respond?

Can we talk to God like Isaiah did?

Why do we call God our Heavenly Father?

SIMPLE PRAYER:
Heavenly Father,

Thank you for listening any time we pray.

In Jesus' name,
Amen

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3-5TH)

ICEBREAKER:
How many of you refer to your grandparents by a name other than grandma and/or grandpa?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:
Matthew 6:9-13
Split the verse up into sections, as many as you have kids in the group. Give each child a section to read or recite. See how well your group can read the verse together!

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:
Let all the kids make paper airplanes, and see whose can fly the farthest.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:
Read Isaiah 6:1-8

What does Isaiah's vision tell us about who God is?

How did Isaiah respond to God's call?

Why do we call God our Heavenly Father?

How do we know God wants us to pray to Him?

How does it feel to know that the Almighty God wants us to pray to Him?

SIMPLE PRAYER:
Heavenly Father,

Thank you for listening any time we pray.

In Jesus' name,
Amen

POWERPOINT REVIEW GAME

TRUE OR FALSE

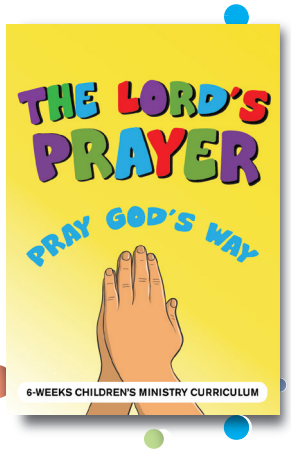
Isaiah was a prophet who had a vision of Heaven.
TRUE

Isaiah was forbidden from talking to God.
FALSE

God wants us to talk to Him and pray.
TRUE

We need to address God like a king or ruler when we pray.
FALSE

God loves when we call Him our Heavenly Father.
TRUE



MAKE IT STICK

5 Simple Ways You Can Make This Lesson Stick With your Kids

The Lord's Prayer Lesson 2

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: OUR FATHER

IN THE CAR:
Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home:
God is great and holy – Isaiah got to see that firsthand with God on a glorious throne surrounded by angels. God is so holy and awesome and the fact that He would even allow us to pray to Him is amazing. But that same God who is the most awesome and powerful being in the universe, not only allows us to talk to Him, but also to call Him "Father", because He loves us. Matthew 6:9 & Isaiah 6:1-8, Isaiah's Commission

HANGING OUT:
Make this week's lesson real:
What names do you have in your family for grandparents and great grandparents? Do any aunts and uncles have unusual names? Talk to your kids about where those names came from, and ask your kids how it feels to call our Creator God by the name "Father."

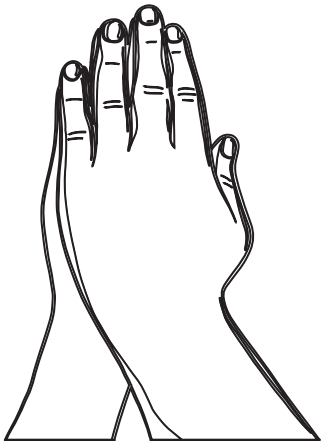
AT DINNER:
Here are some great discussion starters:
- How did Jesus address God when He prayed?
- What did Isaiah's vision reveal to us about who God is?
- How do we know that the same, powerful God wants us to pray to Him?

AT BEDTIME:
Quiz your child on this week's memory verse:
"This is how you should pray. Our Father in heaven, may your name be honored. May your kingdom come. May what you want to happen be done on earth as it is done in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, just as we also have forgiven those who sin against us. Keep us from sinning when we are tempted. Save us from the evil one." Matthew 6:9-13 (NIrV)

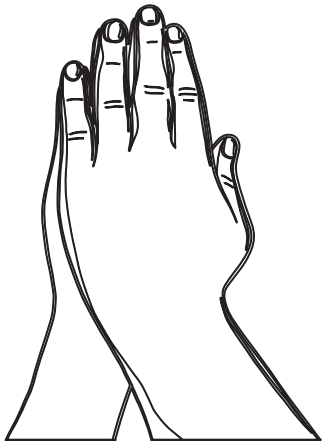
PARENT TIME: What you need to know: Even though He is almighty and all-powerful, God is also approachable. Jesus addressed God as "Our Father" to show us we do not have to be afraid to speak to Him. God is all-powerful, but is also all loving. He loves when we pray!

CRAFT ACTIVITY

Have the kids address an envelope to God with the words, “Our Father” or “Heavenly Father” on the front. You can have the kids make a list of prayer requests to put inside the envelope if you like and have the time.



"This, then, is how you should pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one." - Matthew 6:9-13 (NIV)



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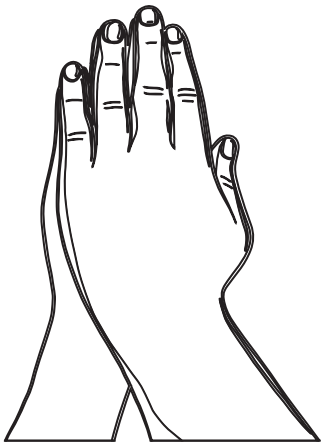

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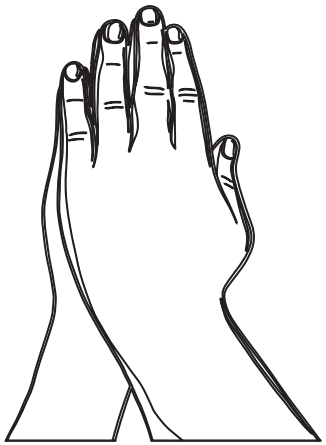

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CUT ON DASHED LINE