

LESSON SNAPSHOT

BOTTOM LINE:

Prayer shows us that God provides for us.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will learn that prayer helps us see how God provides.

KEY PASSAGE:

Matthew 6:11 & 1 Kings 17:7-16, Elijah and the Widow

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:

Sometimes our situations seem hopeless – like in the story of Elijah and the widow – but God can work miracles to supply our needs. We should pray about our daily needs - food, clothes, health, etc. - to remind ourselves that all of these blessings come from God.

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Give us what we need each day of our lives!

*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 (NIV)

"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:

Split the main group in two. See which group can recite the Lord's Prayer from memory the loudest.

SMALL GROUP:

Pair the kids off and have them recite the Lord's Prayer to each other.

SKIT

OUR DAILY GLUTEN FREE TREATS...

ITEMS NEEDED:

Sleeping bags and pajamas

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN:

2F

CHARACTERS:

Lily and Alice - Two friends having a sleepover

Lily and Alice enter and kneel down to pray.

LILY: Okay, we've said our hellos to God, and we've prayed for God's will to be done and not our own. What's the next thing we pray for?

ALICE: The next part is where we ask God to provide our daily bread.

LILY: Bread? Did you say bread?

ALICE: Yes.

LILY: Oh no! No way! Huh uh! Nope! No can do there, Alice.

ALICE: Wait, what's wrong with bread?

LILY: Oh nothing, Alice, except that I have a gluten allergy!

ALICE: Gluten allergy?

LILY: I can't eat bread, Alice! It makes me sick!

ALICE: Well, lucky for you, when Jesus said daily bread, He wasn't just referring to bread.

LILY: He wasn't?

SKIT

ALICE: No. Jesus wants us to pray that God will meet our needs as they come up. "Daily bread" means God provides the things we need each day. Clothing, shelter, good friends, good family, love, and yes... bread.

LILY: I can't eat bread, Alice.

ALICE: Lily...

LILY: The last time I ate bread was when my Aunt Selma made some amazing cinnamon rolls. I laid around in bed sick for two whole days!

ALICE: Lily...

LILY: She won a blue ribbon at the state fair for her recipe, but I was ill! Violently ill!!

ALICE: Lily...

LILY: God could have made it anything else. Daily fruit cocktail. Daily refried beans. Daily tossed salad. Why does it have to be bread?

ALICE: Lily!

LILY: What? What? Why do you yell my name over and over every week?

ALICE: Lily, God knows what you need - and what you don't need. Put it in your own words, but just ask God to give you what you need each day.

LILY: How about this? "God, give me this day my daily gluten free pumpkin spice muffin." Is that okay?

ALICE: You know, Lily? It's perfect.

LILY: It is?

ALICE: You may not get a gluten free pumpkin spice muffin every day, but God will give you exactly what you need.

LILY: That's amazing.

OBJECT LESSON OR KIDS SERMON

ITEMS NEEDED:

A grocery bag with a loaf of bread, a jar of peanut butter, and a jar of jelly

How many of you take a bag like this, with these items in it, to school every day? PB&J eaters, why wouldn't you take a whole loaf of bread, a jar of peanut butter, and a jar of jelly to school every day? Because you don't need the whole loaf or the whole jars. Each day, we take what we need. We spread enough peanut butter and jelly between two slices of bread for each day, and the next day, we do it again.

When we pray for our daily bread, we are asking and trusting God to provide for us each day. We may not know what the future holds, and there may be times when we wonder how we will face some situations that lie ahead. God wants us to have faith. He wants to show us, day by day, that He will meet our needs so that when those challenging days come, we know He will meet those needs too.

We don't need everything to get us through the end of the year right now. We need our daily bread and faith that God will always provide what we need.

LARGE GROUP GAME

TEA-LAY RACE

ITEMS NEEDED:

Two tables

A few large pitchers of tea (or water for less sticky spills)

A few empty pitchers

Small styrofoam cups

INSTRUCTIONS:

Divide the kids into as many teams as you have pitchers, 4-6 to a team. Have the teams stand in front of one table with the full pitchers, and place the empty pitchers on another table 20 feet away. The teams will have a relay race in which one by one, players will fill a cup with tea, race to the other table, empty their cup into another pitcher, and return to their team. The race continues until one team becomes the first to empty the first pitcher and fill the second. Some team members may need to go 2 or even 3 times to finish the race.

VARIATION:

To add to the difficulty, have the kids carry their cups on trays rather than carrying cups in their hands.

WHAT'S THE POINT?

Just as this race is won one cup at a time, we must live day to day, trusting God for our daily bread.

LARGE GROUP LESSON

BOTTOM LINE:

Prayer shows us that God provides for us.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will learn that prayer helps us see how God provides.

KEY PASSAGE:

Matthew 6:11 & 1 Kings 17:7-16, Elijah and the Widow

INTRO:

There are a great many things that make older people like us say, "You kids have no idea how good you have it." One of the many things you kids have that we didn't is streaming video.

Today, if you find a new TV series you like, you can watch the entire series, one episode after another, at your convenience. You don't have to wait a day or a week or however long it used to take for the next episode to come on TV. Netflix, Hulu, all these streaming services will automatically go from one episode to the next. No waiting!

That means when you get to the end of an episode and see the words, "To be continued," you don't have to suffer the same frustration we did. There was nothing worse than getting to the end of an episode of Batman, or Power Rangers, or whatever the show may be and knowing we had to wait one whole day to see if everything turned out okay. The TV producers didn't give us all the answers at once because they wanted us to come back the next day. They gave us enough story for one day and left us wanting more for the next.

Today, as we continue our look at the Lord's Prayer, we reach the part where Jesus asks God to "Give us our daily bread." This is one of the shorter parts of the prayer, but it's a very important part for us to understand. Just like those pesky TV shows that would often leave us hanging, sometimes life has cliffhangers. Sometimes things can seem down right hopeless, and we have no clue how we will get through.

God allows us to go through those times so we do not forget where our blessings come from. God wants us to have faith in Him that He will give us what we need each day - our daily bread. God knows our needs before we ask, and God will give us what we need, when we need it most, if we trust Him.

LARGE GROUP LESSON

There's a beautiful story in the Old Testament that illustrates this. It's the story of a single mom who only had enough food for one more meal for her and her son. She was prepared to bake one last day's worth of bread for them, a meal they would enjoy before starving to death. Then a man of God named Elijah came along.

READ 1 KINGS 17:7-16

MAIN POINT:

God had sent a drought on the land where the woman and her son lived. The drought punished both the good and the bad, and this woman had suffered terribly. She was certain that she and her son were doomed to die, yet when the prophet asked her to make him a loaf of bread, she trusted him because she trusted God.

God rewarded the woman's faith! Every day, she continued to make bread, and miraculously, her flour and oil never ran out.

God wants us to trust Him with that same type of faith. He knew the needs of the widow, and He knows the needs we have before we ask. If we trust the Lord, He will give us our daily bread. We will have the necessities we need to get by each day, whether our challenges are big or small. Our faith will grow as we see God meeting our needs, one day at a time, praying that He gives us our daily bread.

DRIVE IT HOME:

There are some people who think that God wants to make them rich. They believe that if they pray hard enough, give the right amount, and do good works, God will bless them with money and things. That's not how God works, and even people who have great wealth still have smaller needs that need to be met every day.

God's plan isn't to set us up with a fat bank account and a big house so we can take it easy. God wants us to rely on Him. Day by day, He wants us to pray for our daily bread. Day by day, when we pray for that provision, God will give us what we need. If it's a friend, a friend will be there. If it's a personal need, God will meet it in some way.

Even as kids, we can get wrapped up worrying about the future. Who will be in our class next year? Will we still have the same friends? Will we be able to stay on the team in junior high and high school? Where will we go to high school? What about college? Where will we get a job?

The story of the widow and her son shows us we don't need to worry over these things. We can trust God one day at a time. We can pray for our daily bread knowing that God will meet our needs one day at a time. Even when things seem hopeless, even when we can't see a way out, we can trust our problems to God and know that when we need it most, He will provide!

LARGE GROUP LESSON

CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Give us what we need each day of our lives!

In Jesus' name,

Amen

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

ICEBREAKER:

What will you be packing in your lunch tomorrow?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

Matthew 6:9-13

Pair the kids off and have them recite the Lord's Prayer to each other.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Pair the kids up. Have each pair sit facing the same way, with one person behind the other. The person behind will draw something on their partner's back, and their partner must try to guess what they are drawing. Then switch positions and play the game again.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read 1 Kings 17:7-16

Who was Elijah?

What did Elijah ask the woman to give him?

How much food did the woman have left?

How did God give the woman daily bread?

Can we trust God to meet our needs each day?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Thank you for providing all we need.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3-5TH)

ICEBREAKER:

What will you be packing in your lunch tomorrow?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

Matthew 6:9-13

Pair the kids off and have them recite the Lord's Prayer to each other.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Pair the kids up. Have each pair sit facing the same way, with one person behind the other. The person behind will draw something on their partner's back, and their partner must try to guess what they are drawing. Then switch positions and play the game again.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read 1 Kings 17:7-16

What did Elijah ask the woman to give him?

Why did the woman trust Elijah and make him some bread?

How did God give the woman daily bread?

Why doesn't God give us all the answers and everything we will need before we need it?

Can we trust God to meet our needs each day?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Thank you for providing all we need.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*

POWERPOINT REVIEW GAME

FILL IN THE BLANK

_____ was a prophet of God.

ELIJAH

Elijah asked a woman to make him some _____.

BREAD

The woman only had enough ingredients to make one more meal for her and her

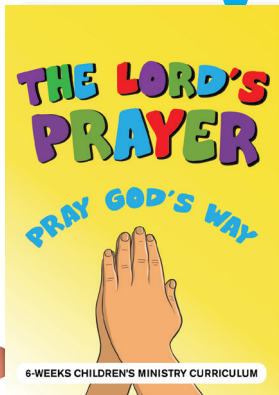
_____.
SON

Elijah told the woman she would not run out of food before God sent _____ to the land.

RAIN

We should pray for our _____ bread so God meets our needs each day.

DAILY



MAKE IT STICK

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

The Lord's Prayer Lesson 4

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: OUR DAILY BREAD



IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home:

Sometimes our situations seem hopeless – like in the story of Elijah and the widow – but God can work miracles to supply our needs. We should pray about our daily needs - food, clothes, health, etc. - to remind ourselves that all of these blessings come from God. Matthew 6:11 & 1 Kings 17:7-16, Elijah and the Widow



HANGING OUT:

Make this week's lesson real:

Talk with your kids about your monthly expenses - how much you pay for utilities, rent or mortgage, food, etc. How do you plan to pay for these expenses every month? How does God provide for these needs and others?



AT DINNER:

Here are some great discussion starters:

- What did Elijah ask the woman to do?
- How did God provide daily bread for the woman and her son?
- Do you trust that God will meet your needs as well?



AT BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this week's memory verse:

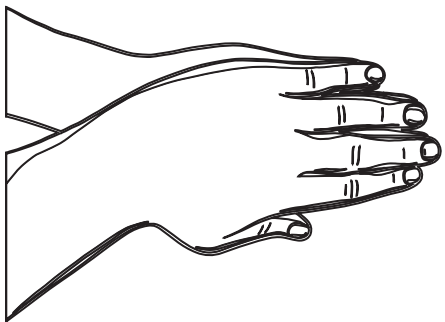
"This is how you should pray. Our Father in heaven, may your name be honored. May your kingdom come. May what you want to happen be done on earth as it is done in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, just as we also have forgiven those who sin against us. Keep us from sinning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



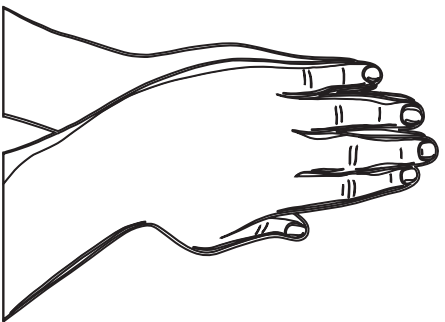
PARENT TIME: What you need to know: Sometimes things seem impossible or hopeless, but if we trust God, He will make a way. He will provide when we need it most and give us our daily bread. If you are struggling with worry about the future, ask God to give you daily bread and build your faith that He will provide.

CRAFT ACTIVITY

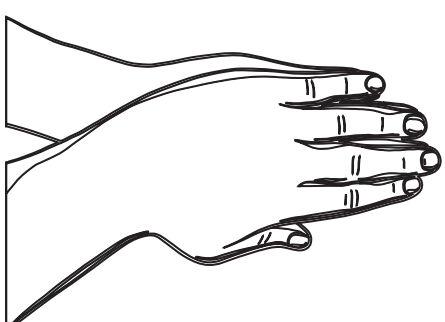
Have the kids make a trail mix snack together that they can enjoy later. (Be careful when picking ingredients that you do not get anything with allergens.) Give each child two baggies to fill - one for today, and one for tomorrow, as a reminder that God gives us our daily bread.



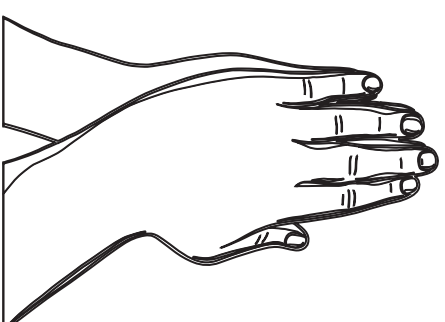
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