

JUNE 21, 2020

FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE:

THE LORD'S PRAYER - MATTHEW 6:9-13

- *Because there are many translations of the Bible, there are also many translations of the Lord's Prayer. We will be trying to memorize the wording used in our church but as we learn it, we will talk about what it means and give examples of the verses in simplified (but not compromised) language. For today, please begin by reading Matthew 6:9-13.*

This prayer is commonly called the Lord's prayer, since it is the prayer that Jesus taught His disciples. People still pray this prayer all over the world! How does Jesus start the prayer? "Our Father in Heaven." When we pray, we can talk to God about anything. We can ask Him for help or forgiveness. We can thank Him or pray for others or tell Him about our day. But Jesus wants us to remember that the power of prayer lies in Who we pray to. Our prayers are for God and God is our Father in Heaven. Maybe you are thinking, I already have a father or a daddy. God gives us people, like dads, in our lives, who love us and care for us. This weekend, we celebrate dads in particular because it is Father's Day! But just as God gives us our families, He also invites us to be a part of His bigger family. He is the Father in Heaven and He wants all of us to be His children. That is why He sent Jesus to rescue us from our sins - so we could be His forever family. As our Father, He rescues us, loves us, forgives us, helps us and is always with us. He is a perfect Father.

Next, Jesus says: "Hallowed be thy name." Hallowed means *holy* - or set apart and special. The Bible is telling us to keep God's name holy. That can be confusing because God will always be holy. He will always be perfect and set apart. We keep His name holy (we hallow his name) when when we obey Him and follow His example. When you share His love with someone, you are keeping His name holy. When you forgive someone, you are keeping His name holy. When the church come together to worship God or works together to help those who are hurting, we are keeping His name holy. What is a way that you have seen your family or the church keep God's name holy?

Let's pray the Lord's prayer and say the first two lines twice to help us memorize them.

This week's Scripture Memorization Challenge is from Matthew 6:9:

"Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be your name."

GAME

Play a family game of "Father, May I?" One person is the "father" and stands across the room, with his/her back turned to the rest of the family, who are lined up side by side. One by one, players can ask "father" if they may take a certain number of steps or hops or spins forward. "Father" has the power to say yes or no. The first person to get close enough to tap "father" on the back wins.

CRAFT PROJECT

Create a Lord's Prayer book. Take two pieces of paper and fold them together to make a book/pamphlet. Hole punch three holes along the folded edge and let children thread and tie a decorative string through them. How you create your book is up to you! You can make one book per person or one person family. You can illustrate the prayer or copy a part of it each week on a new page. Here is a sample. I think it helps with understanding and memorization when you create your own but this is also printable to save time.
<https://ministry-to-children.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Lords-prayer-booklet.pdf>