September 23, 2007 Lesson 13







JESUS TEACHES HIS DISCIPLES HOW TO PRAY

Luke 11:1-4: Matthew 6:9-13

When a little baby is born, there are lots of things that it will need to learn in a very short time. It needs to learn how to eat by itself, how to walk and how to talk. When a person is saved, there are just as many things that he or she needs to learn how to do. One of the most important things is to learn how to pray.

When the disciples first started following Jesus, they did not really know how to talk to God, even though they were grown men. They asked Jesus to teach them how to pray, and He did!

Jesus said that we should first thank God for all the good things, which He has done and then ask Him to forgive us for anything we have done wrong and to give us whatever kind of help we need. He even gave them a model prayer that we call the "Lord's Prayer."

It goes like this: "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."

Have you talked to God today? Now you know how!

KEY VERSE: "Give us this day our daily bread" (Matt. 6:11).

APPLICATION STORY



Mary knelt down by the side of her bed next to Grandma. They were saying bedtime prayers.

"Jesus, thank you for the beautiful sunshine today and all the snow to play in," Mary said. "Please forgive me for rubbing snow in Sam's face when Grandma told me not to. Jesus, please bless Grandma and our family and our church and the dog and the cat. Amen."

Grandma smiled when Mary was finished. Her words were not fancy but they were what she wanted to share with Jesus, her Saviour. Grandma knew that Jesus had listened to every word!



WORD WISE

Pray—talk to God

Model—a form that shows how something is to be done

TEACHER'S TIPS



The Lord's Prayer is one of the most memorized portions of the Bible because of its great spiritual truth and beauty. Although preschoolers are incapable of understanding the depth of the prayer's meaning, begin memorizing it with them today so that it becomes a part of their daily lives. Since many of your students cannot read, you may want to make cards with visual clues, such as a loaf of bread or a picture of heaven to help them along. Send a written copy of the prayer home with students so that they can continue memorizing with their families.





