

HFkids Small Group Lesson Plan ~ Week 4, Oct 27

Today's Message: From Memorized Prayer to a Conversation with God.

Bible Story: "Teaching about Prayer" (Matthew 6:5-13)

Challenge of the Week: Say the "Our Father" each day, really focus on each word, really talk to God through the prayer.

SMALL GROUPS. Small Group Leaders **(5 - 7 minutes)**

Ice Breaker Activity.

Kids will be sent directly to your mat, please engage in conversation as they arrive then use the Skittle activity until called for Prayer & Readings.

STAY IN SMALL GROUPS.

Catechist will lead prayer & Bible Reading and Message...

Prayer & Introduction (3 minutes)

Prayer. "Our Father" this is our focus today!

Bible Reading: "Teaching About Prayer" (Matthew 6:5-13). "P-R-A-Y" bags

Teaching about Prayer message by the Catechist (7 minutes) the message will conclude with the following reading from Gospel of Matthew

Jesus tells us, "Pray like this:"

May your name be kept holy. May your kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

This first part of the prayer teaches you to Praise God and thank Him for all He has done for you." We can think of the "P" in pray as Praise and Thanksgiving.

Jesus goes on to say in verse 12,

“And forgive us our sins.”

The “R” in Pray stands for “Repentance.”

The word repentance means to ask for forgiveness. In verse 12, Jesus tells us to ask for forgiveness for the times when we make the wrong choice.

Jesus then says in verse 12,

“As we have forgiven those who sin against us.”

In this part of the prayer, we are asking God to help us to forgive others of their sins. That’s why the “A” represents for “Asking for Others.” God wants you to forgive those who sin against you because your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you don’t forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins. It can be hard to forgive others sometimes so that is why it is so important to ask for God’s help.

Finally, at the end of the prayer in verse 13, it says,

“And lead us not into temptation, but rescue us from the evil one.”

In this part, the “Y” stands for “Yourself.”

Jesus wants you to ask God for help so you are not tempted to make the wrong choice. God wants to help you make those good choices so you can be closer to Him.

I am sure you have figured out that in today’s Bible story, Jesus is teaching us the “Our Father.” He takes the time to teach us to pray because He wants us to spend time praying in private with God. We sing this prayer at mass, but you can say it at anywhere and anytime. The words we say in mass are slightly different but the meaning is the same. Of course, this is not the only prayer you can say.

You can say your own prayer too. So take some time this week to Praise and Thank God (P), Repent for your sins (R), and Ask for others (A) and Yourself (Y).

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION. Small Group Leaders (until 11:00)

1. Why is the “Our Father” so important?
2. What are some things you ask/talk to God about?
3. Are there times that you wished God didn’t know everything you are thinking?
4. How often do you pray?
5. What are other ways we can communicate with God other than praying?

Message Video - Small Group Leaders (2 minutes)

Please direct the kids attention to the TV screen and stay in small group for the message video. *Below is the video link if you want to watch ahead of time.*

https://player.vimeo.com/external/183299829.hd.mp4?s=2f0ea0f33aeaaf166f314920d8beac249f4443cf&profile_id=174&download=1

Closing Prayer (1 minute) - Small Group Leaders (1 minute)

Lead children in closing prayer (below) and remain with the kids until parents arrive. Gather Time Travellers. Please make sure the names of all the kids in your group are listed.

Closing Payer:

A prayer of protection from St. Patrick

May Christ shield me today,

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ within me,
Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ at my right, Christ at my left,
Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me.

Amen