



Walk As Jesus Did

A study for children on the life of Jesus

Family Devotional (4/19/20)

Key Point: Jesus prayed often and taught his disciples to do the same.

Today, we want our kids to learn that Jesus prayed often and taught His disciples how to pray. God's children pray to the Father because of the Son with the help of the Holy Spirit.

What we want the kids to know:

- Prayer is talking with God (speaking - in confession, praise, thanksgiving and request - and listening).
- Jesus prayed often because He loved the Father, was dependent on the Father, and trusted the Father.
- Jesus taught His disciples to pray to the Father, asking for His glory, kingdom, and will.
- Jesus taught His disciples to pray with faith, believing that God is wise (He knows what is best), generous (He gives what is best), and attentive (He hears and responds to the prayers of His children).

What we want the kids to do:

- Walk like Jesus did:
 - Pray out of love for, trust in, and dependence on God.
 - Pray prayers out of a desire to see God glorified
 - Pray out of faith and pray often
 - Talk with God and listen to God

Text for Study: Luke 11:1-13. (See also Luke 5:15-16)

Create discipleship time: As a family, spend time reading and talking about God's Word.

Read Luke 5:15-16 to your kids.

But now even more the report about him went abroad, and great crowds gathered to hear him and to be healed of their infirmities. But he would withdraw to desolate places and pray.

Explain that as more and more people heard about Jesus and His miracles, they wanted to see Jesus, hear His teaching, and be healed by Him. But Jesus would often go away by Himself to pray.

1. What did Jesus go away to do by Himself?
Jesus went away to pray.
2. What is prayer?
Prayer talking with God.
3. What was Jesus doing before He stopped to pray? Was it important?
Jesus was healing people. Yes, it was very important.
4. Why do you think Jesus stopped something so important to go away and talk with the Father?
Jesus knew the Father and loved the Father. He wanted to spend time talking to the Father.



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5. Who did Jesus depend on to give Him the things that He needed?
Jesus was dependent on the Father and spent time asking for what He needed.
6. Do you think this was the only time Jesus went away to pray?
No. Jesus prayed often.
7. Can you think of other times in the Bible that Jesus prayed?
At the feeding of the 5,000 – He broke the bread and gave thanks to God (Mark 6:41-42); in the Garden of Gethsemane just before He was arrested and taken to the cross (Matt 26:36-46).

Tell your kids that Jesus prayed often because He knew, loved, and trusted the Father.

1. God's children walk as Jesus did. If Jesus prayed often and wanted to spend time talking with the Father, what should God's children do?
God's children should pray often and want to spend time talking with the Father.
2. Why is it important for God's children to pray often?
God's children know and love God, and should want to spend time with Him! God is what is best!

Ask the kids if they have heard the word "depend" or "dependent" before. **Explain** that as humans we are dependent upon God for everything. And God tells His children to come to Him often in prayer for everything they need.

3. Who are we dependent on for everything that we need?
We are dependent on God for everything that we need!
4. How should God's children ask for the things that they need?
Often, and with faith that God is attentive (He hears and responds to His children).

Tell your group that Jesus taught His disciples how to pray and we can learn from Him too.

Open to and read Luke 11:1-4.

Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." And he said to them, "When you pray, say:

"Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

Give us each day our daily bread,
and forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us.

And lead us not into temptation."

5. What kinds of things did Jesus teach the disciples to ask for in prayer?
That God would be glorified (shown, honored and enjoyed as most valuable), that God's



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kingdom would come, that God would provide everything they needed each day, that God would forgive their sins, that God would protect them from temptation.

There is more to prayer than just asking God to do or give certain things.

There are four types of prayer:

- Praise: telling God how good He is
- Thanksgiving: thanking God for who He is and what He has done
- Confession: telling the truth about our sin and asking God to forgive us
- Request: asking God to do or give something

Give each child a blank sheet of paper. Have them fold it in half, both vertically and horizontally, so that they have 4 sections to draw and write in. Then have the kids write or draw a prayer for each section.

6. How can we praise God? Think of a word that describes what God is like and then in the Praise Section of your paper write “God, you are _____!”
7. What are you thankful for? Write or draw a prayer of thanksgiving on the Thanksgiving Section.
8. What sin do you need to be honest with God about? Is there anything you love more than Him? Are there places that do not trust Him? Write or draw your prayers in the Confession Section and ask God for forgiveness and help.
9. In the Request Section write or draw something you think you need or want. Remember that God is generous. He gives what is best to His children.

****Additional passages for family study:** Psalm 116:1-2; Luke 6:12.

Capture discipleship moments: Recap by asking your kids what they learned.

1. What did we learn about God today?
God hears and responds to the prayers of His children.
2. What did we learn about ourselves today?
Those who love and trust Jesus can pray often and in faith.

Pray together as a family. Ask each member of your family – parents included – to share one thing they would like prayer over. Assign someone to pray for that person’s request. Challenge them to pray for that person all week long. Parents, pray a blessing over your children as you close.

This Month’s Memory Verse

*but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. **John 20:31***