

An illustration of four children in a church, praying with their hands clasped. The scene is lit by several lit candles in the background. The text "Prayer To God" is written in a large, elegant, gold calligraphic font on the right side of the image.

Prayer
To
God



Year 1—Quarter 1 “God the Father”

Quarter Aim: God is not distant or unapproachable; rather, He is a caring Father who loves us deeply and wants the best for our lives.

Lesson 8: Prayer to God

“Our Father...”

Say: Jesus taught His disciples to pray. He gave them the “Lord’s Prayer” (Matthew 6:9-13)

Today we will learn the prayer Jesus gave us. It has **five** sections:

- 1. THE WHO:** “Dear Father in heaven.” (Your name is holy. May your kingdom reign on Earth just like it is in heaven.)
- 2. THE WHAT:** “Give us this day our daily bread.” (Give us what we need each day)
- 3. THE HOW:** “Forgive us our sins.” (Forgive us and help us forgive others.)
- 4. THE WHEN:** “Lead us not into temptation.” (Don’t let us give in to sin, but take us away from evil.)
- 5’ THE WOW:** “Thine is the kingdom and power and glory forever, amen.”

On Your Hand

Teaching the **Lord’s Prayer** using the fingers of the hand can be a fun and memorable way for children to learn. Here’s a simple method:

Thumb (Our Father): Start by pointing to your thumb. This represents the beginning of the prayer, where we address God as our Father in heaven.

Index Finger (Hallowed be Your Name): Move to the index finger. This reminds us to honor and respect God’s holy name.

Middle Finger (Your Kingdom Come): The middle finger symbolizes God’s kingdom coming to earth. We pray for His reign and rule in our lives and the world.

Ring Finger (Your Will Be Done): The ring finger represents God’s will. We ask that His plans and purposes be fulfilled on earth, just as they are in heaven.

Little Finger (Give Us Our Daily Bread): The little finger stands for our daily needs. We ask God to provide for us each day, both physically and spiritually.

Folded Hands (Forgive Us and Lead Us): Finally, fold your hands together. This signifies asking for forgiveness (as we forgive others) and seeking God’s guidance to avoid temptation and evil.

Power Point

Jesus gave us
the Lord’s
Prayer.

Lie:

God doesn’t listen to me.

Truth:

Psalm 34:17, “*Godly people cry out, and the Lord hears them. He saves them from all of their troubles.*” (NIRV)





Craft: “Prayer Bead Bracelet”

You will need:

- Crayons or markers
- Scissors
- Construction paper or cardstock
- Beads of various types
- Pipe cleaners or ribbon/string



Procedure:

1. Select paper or card stock. Write on the paper (or card) what various bead colors will be reminders of (example: blue=Thank You God, pink=I’m Sorry God, white=Help others God, orange=Help Me God), whether certain people or parts of the Lord’s Prayer.
2. Add verses and captions to the paper (to remember why you made the bracelet!).
3. Use the pipe cleaner or string as a base. String beads along in various colors and styles.
4. Use the final product as a prayer reminder, decoration, and/or bracelet!

Discussion Ideas:

As the kids are making their prayer bracelets, discuss how each aspect of prayer points to Jesus’ work on the cross. Feel free to use your own thoughts here, but one idea would be –

- **praise**– Praise God for being the creator & sustainer of the world and for always remaining faithful to His people,
- **thanksgiving**– Thank God for sending Jesus to die in our place,
- **confession**– admit that we are sinners and confess the sin in our life repenting and turning to Jesus,
- **ask**– ask God to teach you more about Him and His Word and what it means to be a follower of Jesus,
- **others**– pray for those who haven’t heard the good news that they would have a chance to hear about Jesus.



Year 1—Quarter 1 “God the Father”



The Lord’s Prayer with Hand Motions

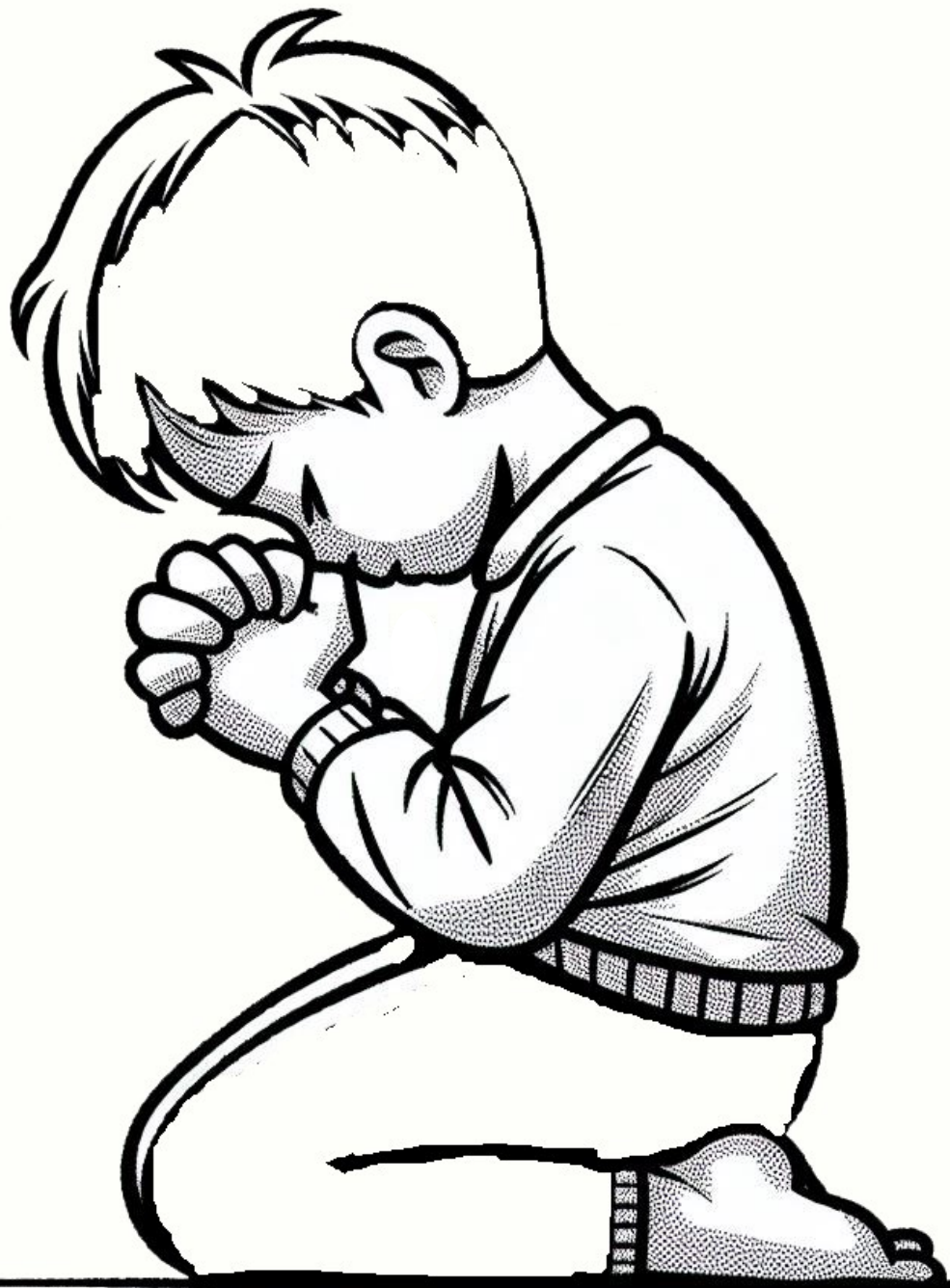
Here are easy-to-follow gestures that correspond to different lines of the Lord’s Prayer:

- **Our Father:** Make a circle around your face with your right hand.
- **In heaven:** Point to heaven using your left hand.
- **Hallowed be:** Place both your hands in front of your face, palms facing out.
- **Your name:** Touch your lips with your pointer and middle finger.
- **Your kingdom come:** Beckon with your right hand, as if asking a friend to come with you.
- **Your will be done:** Write in the air using your right hand.
- **On earth:** Make a circle in front of you with your left hand.
- **As it is in heaven:** Point to heaven with your right hand.
- **Give us today:** Cup your hands together in front of your chest.
- **Our daily bread:** Hold an imaginary piece of bread in your left hand and slice it with your right hand.
- **And forgive us our debts:** Lift your empty palms up.
- **As we also have forgiven our debtors:** Flip your hands over, putting the palms down.
- **And lead us not:** Touch under your eyes with your fingers, making an arc outward.
- **Into temptation:** Put your hands over your mouth.
- **But deliver us:** Make your hands into fists and put them at your sides.
- **From the evil one:** Place the back of your right hand in front of your face, as if shielding your eyes.

Idea: Consider making copies of this page to give to your children’s leaders and to send home with each child.



Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
Amen.



Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
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Amen.

