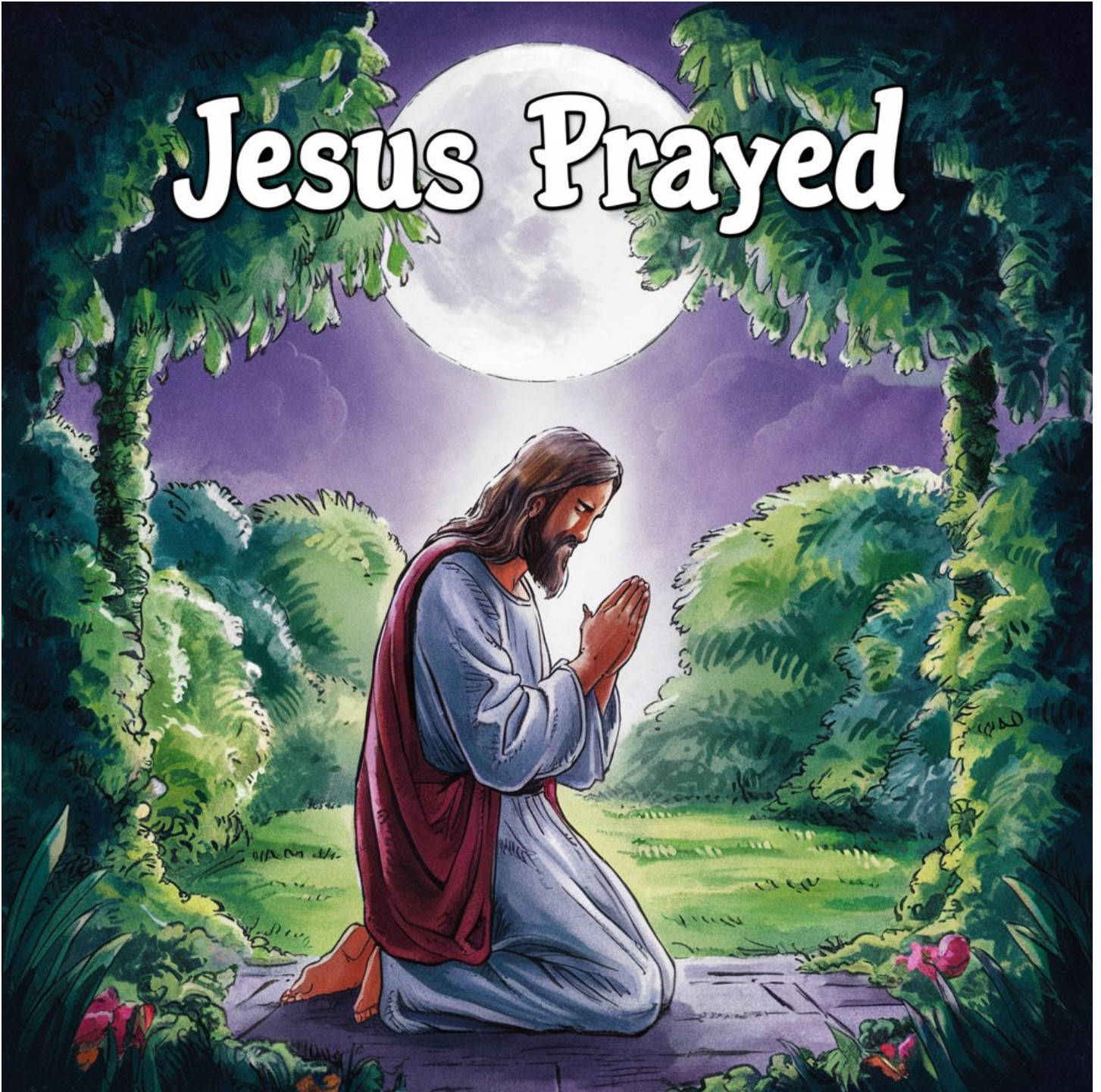


Jesus Prayed



Quarter 2: God the Son — Lesson 21



Year 1—Quarter 2: God the Son

Jesus Prayed

Bible Study:

Prayer is a Conversation

Jesus didn't just recite words; He had a conversation with God. He talked about what was on His heart, just like we do with our friends. For example, in Matthew 26:36-44, Jesus went to the garden to pray before His arrest. He said, "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done." Jesus was honest with God about His feelings and asked for God's help.

Praying for Others

Jesus often prayed for His friends and followers. In John 17:1-26, Jesus prayed for His disciples, asking God to protect and guide them. We can pray for our family and friends too, just like Jesus did. Ask God to help them or to be with them in times of need.

Praying with Sincerity

Jesus prayed with a sincere heart, just like we should. He didn't try to impress God with fancy words or pretend to be something He wasn't. In Philippians 1:9-11, Jesus prayed for His followers to have a deeper understanding of God's love and to live a life that honors God.



Power Point

Jesus' prayer life shows us that prayer is a conversation with God, not just a set of words.

MEMORY VERSE:

"When I am afraid, I will trust in you." Psalm 56:3

Activity: Handle With Prayer

This is an exercise for kids to get to see how easy prayer is. Inform the kids that this is a different kind of activity than normal, but it's still fun. Take five kids to come up and volunteer for the first part of this activity. Ask them to repeat the following sentence, but fill in the blank. "Thank you God for ____." Allow the kids to fill it in with whatever they want, as long as it's something they're thankful for. After that, highlight to the kids that they just prayed to God and how easy that was.

Then ask for five more volunteers to come up and help you with a different activity. Have different colored pieces of paper and give one to each kid. Then have that kid pray about something that color reminds them of.





Object Lesson: Sharpen Your Ax

Object needed: an ax

As you hold the ax, tell the following story: Some years ago a young man was looking for work. He approached a foreman of a logging crew and asked him for a job. "It depends," replied the foreman. "Let's see you take this one down." The young man stepped forward and skillfully felled a great tree. The foreman was impressed and exclaimed, "You can start on Monday!" Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday rolled by. Thursday afternoon the foreman approached the young man and said, "You can pick up your paycheck on the way out today." Star-



tled, the young man asked, "I thought you paid on Fridays." "Normally we do," answered the foreman, "but we're letting you go today because you've fallen behind. Our daily charts show that you've dropped from first place on Monday to last place on Wednesday." "But I'm a hard worker," the young man objected. "I arrive first, leave last, and I've even worked through my coffee breaks!" The foreman, sensing the boy's integrity, thought for a minute and then asked, "Have you been sharpening your ax?" The young man replied, "Well, no, sir. I've been working too hard to take the time."

Application: How about you? Too busy to sharpen your ax? Prayer is the hone that gives you the sharp edge. Without prayer, the more work you do, the duller you'll get. We need to take time to stay sharp as we go about the work of Christ's kingdom!

Lesson Introduction:

For the last couple of months, we've been talking about the life of Jesus; when, where and how He was born and all the things that He did. Do you remember talking about Jesus healing people or casting out demons? Well, today we're talking about another part of Jesus' life. We're talking about Jesus prayers. Do any of you kids have a best friend? (*allow for responses*) Do you like to spend time with that person? Do you like to hang out with them at recess or talk to them at church? The reason that that person is your friend is because you spend time with them just hanging out. Jesus spent a lot of His time praying to God. Sometimes, Jesus would have to get away from all the people that followed Him around just so that He could pray to God. The reason that Jesus did this is so that he could spend time with God and get to know Him. Jesus wanted to make God His best friend.

And the way that He did that was just by spending time with God. Praying isn't hard. All of you just found out how easy it is to pray. You don't have to go to Bible school or be a pastor to pray, anyone can do it! All you have to do is just talk to God, just like you would talk to your mom or dad or best friend. God wants to be your best friend. The way to make God your best friend is to hang out with Him in prayer, just like Jesus did.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

**WHEN THE DISCIPLES
ASKED JESUS HOW TO
PRAY, HE TOLD THEM THE
LORD'S PRAYER IN LUKE
11:2-4**



Take-Home

Summary

Bible Passages:

Mt. 26:36-44; Jn. 17:1-26;
Phil. 1:9-11; Ja. 5:13-16

Main Point:

Jesus' prayer life shows us that prayer is a conversation with God, not just a set of words.

Discuss:

Q: Can you think of times when Jesus prayed for others?

Q: What does Jesus' prayer life teach us about the importance of talking to God?

Q: How did Jesus' prayer life show His dependence on God the Father?

Q: What can we learn from Jesus' example of praying in solitude and quiet?

Gospel Connection: Jesus' prayers were characterized by a persistent and passionate dependence on the Father, rooted in His own identity as the Son of God and Savior, and focused on glorifying God through the salvation and sanctification of humanity.

Explore the Bible

Have these items: a phone, a letter, and an email. Ask, what does prayer have in common with these? (Prayer is a way to communicate with God.)

Read James 5:13-16 and emphasize God's promise to answer our prayers and grow our relationship with Him. Talk about writing in their journals what they are praying for and how God answers those prayers.

Journal Time

Have your child/children write answers to the following questions in their journals. (If they have no journals, consider helping them begin one.)

- What does this lesson teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this lesson teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in these passages to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in these passages to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this lesson help me to live on mission better?

Apply and Pray

Lead your family in a conversational prayer time where each one says something to God. (It could be a "Thank You" or a need or something they like about God Himself) There is no need to pray in order, just let each one speak when something comes to their heart.