



Luke 11: 1b (NIV)
“Lord, teach us to pray”

Last week, our lesson was about the Beatitudes, or Blesseds, that Jesus taught his followers on a mountainside. Today, our story is about another part of that Sermon on the Mount, according to the Gospel of Matthew.

Jesus knew that his disciples wanted to learn how to pray, so he gave them a special prayer. Prayer is a path to Jesus. Our symbol for prayer is praying hands.

Before our Lord teaches His special prayer, Jesus reminds His followers that God knows what we need before we even ask. Then Jesus tells them,

“This is how you should pray:

Our Father who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.”

Sound familiar? Probably. We call this “The Lord’s Prayer”, and it is part of every church service. Christians pray this way lots of other times, too.

We usually add extra praise to God to the end. We say:

“For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.”

When we pray with this one prayer, we worship God, we ask Him to give us what we need, we ask for His help to do the right things, and we promise to forgive others, just as we know that God forgives and loves us.

Christians have learned and practiced this Lord’s Prayer for almost two thousand years. Millions and millions of people pray it every day, in their own languages.

JESUS TEACHES HOW TO PRAY

Follow the path to Jesus.

