

## Your kingdom come

### Luke 11.1-13

Jesus' friends ask him how they should pray. He gives them an example, what we know now as 'The Lord's Prayer'. He also tells them that they need to keep on praying every day.

Now read **Luke 11.1-13** see p.2 for text.

### A note on the passage

Did you know that this is the only prayer that we know about, that Jesus taught his disciples? But we do know that Jesus spent a long time praying to God, and that he often went somewhere quiet to be alone to pray, even when crowds of people were looking for him.

## LISTEN

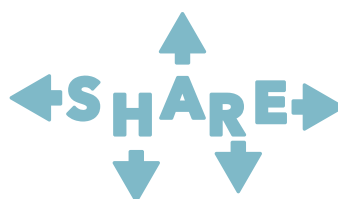
Find a sung version of the Lord's Prayer. Listen to it or quietly sing along, paying careful attention to the words. Think about how each phrase or sentence might make a difference to the way you act. Or, to put it another way, what are you praying for?

A A D F N Z L U C  
H B S E A R C H K  
G A J B N R P H O

When you have found all the words below, you will have 14 spare letters. Arrange these to make a phrase that describes this prayer.

OUR, FATHER, HEAVEN, HALLOWED BE, YOUR NAME, KINGDOM, COME, WILL, EARTH TODAY, DAILY, BREAD, FORGIVE, SINS, NOT, TEMPTATION DELIVER, EVIL, POWER, GLORY.

H	E	A	V	E	N	Y	F	T	D
D	A	E	R	B	R	A	H	E	T
B	E	L	E	O	T	E	L	T	E
E	V	I	L	H	M	I	K	O	M
M	L	G	E	O	V	O	I	D	P
A	R	R	C	E	W	D	N	A	T
N	O	U	R	L	S	E	G	Y	A
R	U	O	Y	L	I	A	D	P	T
R	A	E	V	I	G	R	O	F	I
S	I	N	S	W	Y	T	M	E	O
R	R	E	W	O	P	H	T	O	N



Take a slice of bread or a bread roll. Share it with someone in your household and, as you eat it slowly, think about how much food you actually need to eat that day. The prayer speaks of 'our' daily bread – plural. Is that about sharing too? Can you spare some items of food to take to a local food bank or similar scheme?



What goes through your mind when you pray 'your kingdom come'?



As you start the summer holidays, could you spare a little time each day to say the Lord's Prayer? Say it slowly; pause at the end of each phrase. And, each day, choose a different phrase or sentence from the prayer and think of some actions you could put with it – e.g. for 'hallowed by your name', raise your hands high as if holding up the name of God for all to see. At the end of the week, say the whole prayer using all the actions you have devised.

## Pray

The Lord's Prayer is used by Christians all over the world. It brings Christian people together. On the Mount of Olives, in Jerusalem, the Church of Pater Noster has the Lord's Prayer displayed in over a hundred different languages and dialects. How many different versions of the prayer can you find? Look in different versions of the Bible. Use the internet to find versions in different languages. Write some of them on cards and display them in your house. Have fun reading them aloud – or trying to! Have a go at writing your own version in your local dialect, or in text speak or similar. Or, how about a version in emojis?

Choose a version of the passage to read. The first is the ROOTS version for children, the second is the NRSV text which may be suitable for older children, young people and adults.

**O**ne day, a disciple was watching Jesus as he prayed. He wanted to learn to pray like Jesus. 'Lord, teach us to pray,' he said, 'as John the Baptist taught his disciples.' So Jesus told his disciples to use these words:

'Our Father, hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come.  
Give us each day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive everyone who sins against us.  
And do not put us to the test.'

Jesus continued by telling them a story. 'Imagine you have visitors who arrive late at night. They're hungry but you have no food in the house to give them. You call on your neighbour at midnight and ask if you can borrow three loaves of bread. At first your neighbour answers, 'Go away! The door is locked and we're all in bed. I can't get up now!' But you persist and keep banging on the door. Eventually, your neighbour gives in. He gets up and gives you the bread, because you kept on knocking.'

Jesus said, 'It is the same with God. Ask, and you will receive. Search, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened. For everyone who asks will receive; everyone who searches will find, and the door will be opened to all who knock.'



Jesus asked the crowd, 'Will anyone give their child a snake if they ask for a fish?' They laughed. 'Or a poisonous scorpion if he asks for an egg?' They laughed again. 'No, of course not! A parent would never do that,' said Jesus. 'If parents know how to give good things to their children, can you imagine how much more generous God is? He will give the gift of the Holy Spirit to all who ask him.'



Luke 11.1-13

## Did you know?

- Hallowed means honoured for being holy, and sin is when we are not living as God intends.

## Luke 11.1-13 (NRSV)

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.' 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 indebted to us.  
And do not bring us to the time of trial.'

And he said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and

my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. 'So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'