



TEACH US TO

WORSHIP

A BIBLE STUDY FOR TWEENS, TEENS, & ADULTS

Path Through the Narrow Gate

Teach Us to Pray

Week 1: Worship

How is your prayer life? Do you look forward to praying, to worshiping an almighty God, to bringing your concerns before a loving heavenly Father, to deepening your relationship with the creator God Who rules the universe? Or is prayer a duty that you perform because you know you should - a boring recitation of the same needs over and over again?

Let me ask you: Do you know how to pray? Do you know how to worship?

If you answered "No" to those questions, let me assure you that Jesus' disciples had the same concerns. They observed Jesus' vibrant prayer life, then asked Jesus to teach them to pray (Luke 11:1)

I am so glad that we serve a teaching God. Jesus graciously took the time to teach His disciples by giving them a model prayer, often called "The Lord's Prayer". The Lord's Prayer incorporates worship, a request for kingdom growth, submission, petition, and confession. The next few weeks, we will be focusing on the first part of His prayer, worship.

Worship happens when we think true thoughts about God's greatness and our hearts answer with amazement, praise, and thanksgiving.

Worship happens when we focus our minds on our truly awesome Creator Who has made a way of salvation for us.

On the next page, you will find a copy of Jesus' prayer, taken from the New King James Bible version. Print it out and place it somewhere where you will see it often. Try to memorize Matthew 6:9 and 13b this week.

9. In this manner, therefore, pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be Your name.**

10. **Your kingdom come.**

Your will be done

On earth as it is in heaven.

11. **Give us this day our daily bread.**

12. **And forgive us our debts,**

As we forgive our debtors.

13. **And do not lead us into temptation,**

But deliver us from the evil one.

**For Yours is the kingdom and the
power and the glory forever.**

Amen.

Matthew 6:9-13



The Lord's Prayer

Week One, Day One

Read Matthew 6:5-13. Answer the questions below. You may want to answer them in your head, discuss them with your family or spouse, or write the answers down in a separate note book.

1. What is a hypocrite? Where did the hypocrites like to pray? Why? Did the hypocrites earn any "points" with God for their fabulous prayers?
2. Are you more likely to pray well in public or in private? Do you make time for private prayer?
3. Is Jesus teaching us that all prayer in public is a bad thing? What is the difference between a God-honoring public prayer and a hypocritical public prayer?
4. Do you fall into the use of "vain or meaningless repetitions" (the NIV calls it "babbling") in your prayers? Do you pray the same words over and over again without really focusing on God or thinking about what you are praying for?
5. Which phrases in Jesus' prayer focus on worship? Do you worship God in your prayers? Do you know how to worship?

If you answered "no" to question 5, don't worry. Remember, our great God is a God Who delights to teach us. He has given us everything we need to worship Him through His Holy Word. If you have the heart of a person seeking after the Lord, He will teach you to delight in worshiping His holy name.

Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.

James 4:8

But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

James 1:5

Jesus Teaches About Worship

Week One, Day Two

Read John 4:19-25

1. In verse 23, Jesus says that true worshipers must worship God in what two ways?



2. Jesus says that we must worship God "in truth." It is not enough to worship some far-away "god" that we know nothing about. If we do not make it a priority to study the truth about God, we may find ourselves worshipping a "god" of our own imaginations. How can we learn the truth about God? How can we learn His "proper worth"?

3. Read John 14:6. Who is the Truth of God revealed to us? Who is the only Way to God?

4. Jesus says that we are to worship in truth and in spirit. Who is this Spirit? (Read John 14:16-17) Can we truly worship God without the working of the Holy Spirit in our lives?

5. Do you have a desire to worship God in truth and in spirit? What can this teach you about your own standing with God right now?

Hannah's Song of Worship

Week One, Day Three

As we study worship, it is helpful to look throughout the Bible at the worshipful prayers of other people who have gone before us. Today we will study the prayer of Hannah.

Read 1 Samuel 1:1-11, 17-18, 26-27; 1 Samuel 2:1-10

1. What crushed hope was Hannah experiencing at the beginning of this story? What was making it worse? (1 Sam. 1:2&6)

In her grief and disappointment, Hannah cried out to God. In this story, God chose to intervene and give Hannah the desire of her heart. Her son, Samuel, would grow up to be a great prophet and a godly leader of the people of Israel.

2. How does Hannah's prayer of worship offer encouragement for those who are weak or suffering hardship? Which verse encourages you the most?

3. What warning does Hannah's prayer contain for the proud who feel secure? Which verse shakes your pride the most?

4. Who is firmly in control of every detail of our lives, according to Hannah?

5. Which attributes does Hannah worship God for?

Take a moment and pray through Hannah's prayer, worshiping God for saving you from the enemy of your own sin and praising God for His attributes.

Jehoshaphat's Prayer of Worship

Week One, Day Four

Are you facing some impossible circumstances? Do you feel like there are no good outcomes for your present situation? Are you fearful as you look at the future? King Jehoshaphat understood that feeling. But, in spite of terrifying circumstances, he found solace in worshiping a God Who is able to change all the circumstances in the blink of an eye.

Read 2 Chronicles 20:1-13

1. How does Jehoshaphat feel in the beginning of this story? (vs. 3) What does he do about it?
2. What questions did Jehoshaphat ask God in verses 5-7? Why was he asking these questions?
3. What benefits might there be to intentionally remembering God's miracles from the past when we are facing current problems?
4. What is Jehoshaphat's attitude in verse 12?

Read 2 Chronicles 20:14-19

5. In verse 18-19, Jehoshaphat and the people worshiped and praised God. Had their enemies been destroyed yet? God delights in His people taking Him at His word and worshiping Him even before they physically see His salvation. We do the same thing every time we worship God for forgiving us of our sins and giving us eternal life in heaven. We are still in the battle, still struggling with sin. We haven't seen heaven yet. But we know that God has given us His Word and we can be completely assured of His promises.

Read 2 Chronicles 20:20-30

6. When did the advancing enemy armies start attacking each other? (vs. 22)
7. What thoughts do you have about worship after reading this passage?

Worshiping God Through Song

Week One, Day Five

Do you remember the story of Jehoshaphat from yesterday? Do you remember how the people were worshiping God when God brought them the victory? (2 Chronicles 20:21-22)

Psalm 98:1 says, "Oh sing to the LORD an new song! For He has done marvelous things."

When many people think of worship, they think first of singing. In fact, the music at your church may even be called the "worship service". But does worship always have to include music? Or is singing songs about God always the same thing as worship?

"Praise the LORD, call upon His name: Declare His deeds among the peoples, Make mention that His name is exalted. Sing to the LORD, For He has done excellent things." Isaiah 12:4-5

God is not glorified by the most worshipful music in the world if the one singing it does not have a heart attitude of worship. Try answering these questions with one of your favorite worship songs:

- 1. Do the words of this song reflect Biblical truth about God?**
- 2. Does this song encourage you to focus on God? (or on the performers singing/playing this song?)**
- 3. Does this song portray a humble attitude of God-worship or a self-centered attitude of man-focus?**

"speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Ephesians 5:19-20