



# Lord's Prayer

APPENDIX 4

## The Lord's Prayer—Parent Discussion Sheet

### Helping your child to understand The Lord's Prayer

Praying is not meant to be hard. Talking to God is like talking to a good friend. You can say anything, ask anything and talk about your inmost joys and hurts and know that He won't share what you've told him with anyone. He just listens! If you ask God for help in some way, he will hear you and he will answer you. When we pray the Lord's Prayer, we call God 'Our Father'. God is a loving and caring father who always has the time to love and listen to you, for you are his precious child.

As you pray the **Lord's Prayer** with your child, help them to understand the words. Jesus encourages us to pray:

**God's power and readiness to help.** (*Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.*)

**Doing what God wants us to do.** (*Your kingdom come, your will be done.*)

**How wonderful heaven is.** (*On earth as in heaven.*)

**That God provides all that we need.** (*Give us today our daily bread.*)

**That God forgives our wrongs.** (*Forgive us our sins.*)

**How we should forgive the wrongs done to us.** (*As we forgive those who sin against us.*)

**God's power to help us not do wrong next time.** (*Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.*)

**God wants us to pray like this and have the certainty that God promises to hear us.** (*For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.*)

### Questions for Discussion

- Did you ever pray the Lord's Prayer in your home when you were growing up?
- How is prayer already part of your family life?
- What things might you try to make the Lord's Prayer part of your family life?
- What would you like your child to learn from you about the Lord's Prayer?
- What might happen to your child's faith if you find ways to weave prayer and talking about your faith into everyday life?

As you pray the Lord's Prayer with your children, go slowly at first. Let them fill in the last words of the lines as they can. Stop along the way to talk about how 'this is like what happened today' to make it a living prayer. Encourage them and remind them mistakes are okay. God is glad they are talking to him and that they are learning Jesus' special prayer!

'Then Jesus told his disciples... that they should always pray and not give up.'

Luke 18:1 NIV



O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; For his steadfast love endures forever. Amen.

Psalms 106:1 NRSV