

# Ask, Seek, Knock (Luke 11:5-13) Lesson for Kids

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 [ministry-to-children.com/lesson-ask-seek-knock](http://ministry-to-children.com/lesson-ask-seek-knock)

December 28, 2012

This is a free Bible lesson for children, which will teach the importance of continued prayer. In addition, one will see how God takes care of his children. It's based on a teaching of Jesus found word for word in two different places in the Bible (Matthew 7:7-11 or Luke 11:9-13) so you know it's important!

God is not our "genie in the bottle." He does not nod his head at our commands. We are his children, and he watches over us like children, because God is the good father. Just as it is not wise to give children everything they ask; God, whom is all-knowing (omniscient), is patient and wise as we seek him through prayer. For, God knows our needs before we come to him in prayer.



## Leader Preparation:

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Prayer is essential for a believer in Christ. We, as leaders, must remember that prayer is a two way conversation. Also, we need to remember that God is self-sufficient without our prayers, in that, our prayers do not sustain him. As it is, God sustains us through prayer. His desire is for His children to ask, seek, and knock to receive *his* unfailing love and grace. Before the lesson, *seek* God through prayer—much prayer. *Ask* him to show you the truths of prayer, and *knock* in such a way, which is continuous. If you would like another Gospel comparison to Matthew 7:7, then check out Luke 11:9-13.

**Bible Lesson:** Ask, Seek, Knock

**Scripture:** Matthew 7:7-11 or Luke 11:1-13

**Target Age Group:** 1st-3rd

**Learning Context:** Children's Church/Sunday School

## Coloring Page: Jesus Knocks at the Door

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[Jesus at the Door Coloring Page](#) from [Christian Clip Arts](#)

## Lesson Objectives: Students will learn:

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- The importance of prayer

- The importance of selfless prayer
- Continuously pursuing prayer

### **Memory Verse:**

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- Matthew 7:7 (NIV)—“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.”
- Luke 11:9 (NIV) So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.

### **Helpful Visuals for the Lesson**

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In this passage, one is able to see a few comparisons Jesus makes. The first comparison is bread and a stone. The second comparison is a fish and snake. Try to get creative.

For instance:

1. Bring a loaf of bread and a large stone.
2. If you have a live fish or snake, then bring them to show the children.
3. If you do not have live animals, or do not want to deal with the potential problems, then think about stuffed animals or toys—maybe long-lost Beanie Babies.

### **Creative Project:**

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Another possibility, besides the objects listed above, could be to draw and color bread, a stone, fish and the snake. All one would need for this activity would be color, paper, and a little imagination.

Whenever the passage is read, hold up the pictures, stuffed animals, or the live animals during the parts where they are mentioned (Matt. 7:9-10).

### **Lesson: Matthew 7:7-11 (or Luke 11:9-13)**

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#### **Opening Questions**

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Question 1: Can someone tell me why we pray to God?

Answers could include: “...to talk with him (communicate). ...to understand him (relationship). ...because we love him. ...because he wants us to (obedience).”

Question 2: How often do you think we should pray?

Answer: The Bible says in 1 Thessalonians 5:17 to “pray continually.” We should never stop praying.

Question 3: Do you think we have to pray all the time with our eyes closed?

Answer: No, we can even pray in the car with our eyes open.

Question 4: Would you want your mom or dad to pray with their eyes closed while they are driving?

Answer: I hope not...

### **Ask, Seek, Knock**

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Jesus teaches us in the Bible a few things about prayer. He tells us to ask, to seek, and to knock. Let us read the passage Matthew 7:7-11 together...

<sup>7</sup> “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. <sup>8</sup> For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

<sup>9</sup> “Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? <sup>10</sup> Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? <sup>11</sup> If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!

Jesus is telling us that we should seek God through prayer. Think to yourselves, have you ever walked up to a door to knock where no one came and answered? Jesus is saying that God answers the door that is knocked upon. We must remember to be good knockers, because God wants us to wholly desire him. Knocking on the door one time does not show that we are interested in God. Our knocking needs to be continuous like we are eager to get inside [knock on something continuously to give an idea].

Also, we know God is good and loving. He is not going to answer our prayers poorly; he is going to richly answer our prayers. HE may not answer prayer the way we want him to, but he will answer the prayer better than we ever thought, because HE knows everything! Jesus says that we, as people, have evil hearts—due to sin. He says that since we have evil hearts, then we do not give better gifts than God, whom is perfect and righteous. We should always seek after God, because we know His ways are better than any other way.

### **Gospel Connection**

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Revelation 3:20 says,

Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.

Jesus, who is God, stands at our heart's door and knocks. Jesus, who told us to knock as we pray, is also at our heart's door and wants us to open to him. We should open our hearts to Jesus, because he gave his life for us to take away our sins. Our sins separate us from God, and Jesus raised himself from the grave to show his power over sin. Open your hearts to Jesus. Believe in Him. Believe in the God who sent his Son, Jesus. Pray to seek God.

### **Concluding Questions:**

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1. Should we only pray one time before we give up?
2. What does it mean to "pray continuously?"
3. Does God know what we need more than ourselves? Yes.

### **Luke 11:1-13 NIV – Jesus' Teaching on Prayer**

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**11** One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples."

<sup>2</sup> He said to them, "When you pray, say:

"Father,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come.

<sup>3</sup> Give us each day our daily bread.

<sup>4</sup> Forgive us our sins,  
for we also forgive everyone who sins against us.  
And lead us not into temptation."

<sup>5</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "Suppose you have a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; <sup>6</sup> a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have no food to offer him.' <sup>7</sup> And suppose the one inside answers, 'Don't bother me. The door is already locked, and my children and I are in bed. I can't get up and give you anything.' <sup>8</sup> I tell you, even though he will not get up and give you the bread because of friendship, yet because of your shameless audacity he will surely get up and give you as much as you need.

<sup>9</sup> "So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. <sup>10</sup> For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

<sup>11</sup> "Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? <sup>12</sup> Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? <sup>13</sup> If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

**New Sunday School Curriculum:** Our Bible lessons are designed to keep the kids' attention and show how God's Word makes a difference. Every series is flexible enough for a wide-age group and affordable enough for small churches. Download a [free Bible lesson in pdf](#) or view our latest [Sunday School curriculum for kids](#).

**Jesus is knocking the door of your life**



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# Our Daily Bread...God Provides!

*Children's Sermon Message & Bible Object Lesson  
on the Lord's Prayer from Luke 11:1-13*

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Our Daily Bread...God Provides!

Children's Message on the Lord's Prayer

**Main Objective:** Everything has a price. When we purchase items of any sort, we buy them with currency, whether cash, card, or otherwise. Sometimes we use coupons to help purchase things for less money. For children, things that are needed are likely provided by parents. But how do we obtain things we need from God? Do we have to pay a fee or provide a coupon? Of course not! As a loving Father, God gives us what we need each day, and we only have to ask. This children's message reminds students of the blessing that God provides in allowing us to pray and ask for what we need, knowing He will grant it.

**Law/Gospel Theme:** God gave us the ability, and even template, for prayer. He knows and provides for our needs, but He still wants us to come to Him and ask. Loving parents provide their children with what they need (even if not what they think they want), but still desire communication with kids. As the greatest example of a loving Father, God wants to hear from us, but promises to give us what we need for this body and life. He has already given us the most important thing we need, salvation through His son Jesus, who taught us to pray!

**Optional Materials:** (Optional) Coupons, credit card/gift card, cash money

**Bible Passage:** Luke 11:1-13

**More Children's Ministry Activities:**

- Watch the video of this [children's sermon lesson](#) and [Bible crafts for Sunday School](#)
- Download a complete [Sunday School lesson on Luke 11:1-13](#)
- Compare another [Lord's Prayer children's sermon](#) or see all the [teaching activities on prayer](#)
- Compare the [5-Week Lord's Prayer Curriculum from the Sunday School Store](#)

**Message:** Note: As with most messages, the details of how you choose to communicate this are adaptable and should cater to timing as well as to your audience and student needs.

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## Children's Sermon (Luke 11:1-13) God Provides

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*Greet children, and begin discussing forms of currency...*

Hello, children of God! How do you get things in life? If you have needs or wants, what do you do? You probably ask your parents, and they provide things for you. But what do your parents do when they need to get things? How do they cover the cost of something? Unfortunately, nothing is free, and whatever you are getting comes at a price. Whether it's food or clothing or otherwise, your parents have to pay. Perhaps they pay for things with cash (*hold up cash money to demonstrate*). Or maybe they use a credit card like this (*hold up a card of some sort*), or a gift card. Sometimes, they might have coupons like these, which help get better deals on items when you use them. This is how we obtain things in daily life: we have to pay.

Here's a question, though: how do we get things from God? Do we have to give Him money or coupons? Well, of course not! God isn't a store or a vending machine, and we certainly don't need coupons to approach Him. God is our Father. He loves us and He wants to hear from us. He wants us to come to Him and ask for what we need, and He promises to give it to us. There's nothing we can do to earn or deserve anything from the Lord, but He promises to grant us what we need for life. Your parents know your needs, but they probably still appreciate it when you ask for things politely. Well, God knows what you need, too, but He wants us to talk to Him through prayer, not just to ask for things but also to confess our sins and needs, and to praise and thank Him for all He's done.

God gives us what we need each day. This might not always mean we get what we want, because that's different from what we need. But He provides for the most essential things. In fact, He's already given us His Son Jesus, who took away our sins through His blood on the cross. That's all we truly need! But God also lets us have food, shelter, family friends, and other things that He knows we benefit from. He invites us to come to Him in prayer and He promises to be with us. God values and loves us, and wants to give us good things. We might worry about the future, but we can rest assured that HE is in control. It doesn't take cards or cash or coupons...just simple prayer!

Jesus taught a prayer in the Bible, providing us with a sort of template to follow. It goes something like this: God in Heaven, your name is Holy. I hope that your kingdom would reign on Earth just like it is in Heaven. Give us what we need each day, but forgive us and help us forgive others. Don't let us give in to sin, but take us away from evil.

We can go to God any time and ask for what we (think we) need. He might not answer the way we want, but He always listens!

Why don't we say a prayer now?

## Children's Prayer Moment:

(Have kids repeat each line)

Dear God,

Thank you for letting us come to you in prayer

And thank you for providing all that we need

Help us to trust in you no matter what

And to truly love you and one another

Thank you for your love

We love you, God!

In Jesus name, Amen!

## Bible Verses/story to Reference: Luke 11:1-13 ESV

*Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." 2 And he said to them, "When you pray, say:*

*"Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. 3 Give us each day our daily bread, 4 and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation."*

*5 And he said to them, "Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves, 6 for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; 7 and he will answer from within, 'Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything'? 8 I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs. 9 And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 10 For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. 11 What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; 12 or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? 13 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!"-Luke 11:1-13*

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# Prayer Patterns

*Sunday School Crafts & Activities for teaching  
the Lord's Prayer from Luke 11:1-13*

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## Prayer Patterns... Craft Ideas for The Lord's Prayer

How do we get what we need from God? Do we have to act a certain way or pay a certain price? The simple and beautiful truth is that the Lord provides all that we need, and we only have to ask. Through prayer, we have access to God and can express our desires and needs. These crafts are intended to remind students of the importance of prayer, and guidelines for it. A prayer bracelet includes reminders to pray for people or things. A "helpful hand" serves as a special gift for someone else who might need prayer. And a prayer jar offers either a game or a guide to recalling and using the words of the prayer Christ taught us.

## Bible Verses or Craft Captions to Consider... (Luke 10:25-37)

*And he (Jesus) said to them, "When you pray, say: "Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. 3 Give us each day our daily bread,4 and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation." -Luke 11:2-4*

*And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. -Luke 11:9*

*Take time to pray! God wants to hear from you!*

*Our lives are in God's Hands...He provides what we need!*

*I'm praying for YOU!*

*And when you pray...prayer bracelet reminders...*

*God loves you, and so do I! Praying for you...*

## More Children's Ministry Activities:

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## Craft one: "Prayer Bead Bracelet"

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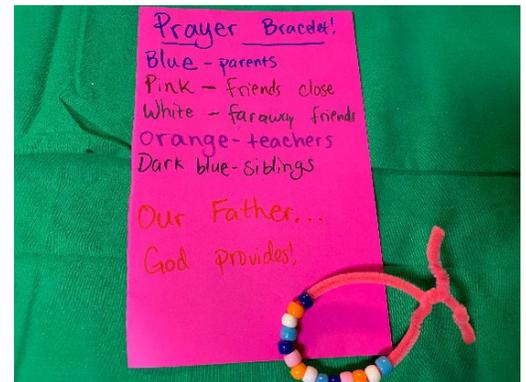
### You will need:

- Crayons or markers
- Scissors
- Construction paper or cardstock
- Beads of various types
- Pipe cleaners or ribbon/string



### Procedure:

1. Select paper or card stock. Write on the paper (or card) what various bead colors will be reminders of, whether certain people or parts of the Lord's Prayer.
2. Add verses and captions to the paper (to remember why you made the bracelet!).
3. Use the pipe cleaner or string as a base. String beads along in various colors and styles.
4. Use the final product as a prayer reminder, decoration, and/or bracelet!



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## Craft Two: "Helping Hand Gift"

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### You will need:

- Construction Paper or cardstock
- Plastic gloves (preferably transparent)
- Candies, snacks, or prizes
- String or pipe cleaner
- Scissors
- Decorative elements as desired
- Markers or crayons

### Procedure:

1. Decorate the paper as a card to encourage someone, reminding them that they are loved and prayed for. Add verses and decorations.
2. Fill the gloves with snacks, candy, or treats.
3. Secure with string or pipe cleaners.
4. Give the treats to someone special who could use encouragement!



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## Craft Three: “Lord’s Prayer Jar”

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### You will need:

- Construction Paper or cardstock
- Popsicle sticks
- Glue or tape
- Small glass jar
- Scissors
- Decorative elements as desired
- Markers or crayons

### Procedure:

1. Decorate the outside of the jar as desired, adding stickers or paper decorations.
2. Cut the paper or card stock into strips.
3. On each strip, write parts of the Lord’s prayer (alternatively, write down people or things to pray for).
4. Place the strips into the jar, and/or write down on popsicle sticks.
5. Use the papers to learn the Lord’s prayer by emptying them out and putting them in order; OR pull out one piece at a time to focus on in prayer.





Thank you for downloading these free materials. Our team is grateful for your trust and pray that God will bless your ministry.

This resource was prepared by [Kristin Schmidt](#) (pictured right). She serves at the Epiphany Lutheran Church in Castle Rock, CO. She has shared her teaching gifts through Ministry-To-Children since 2014 and now serves as our lead curriculum writer.



Every week she writes new [Sunday School lessons](#), [Bible crafts](#), and [children's sermons](#).

Kristin has a professional background in elementary and pre-school education. A graduate of Biola University, she holds a Master of Education and will receive the Master of Theology degree from Concordia University, Irvine, California, in May 2020. Kristin grew up in southern California and lived the past 10 years in Georgia. She is a long-distance runner and voracious reader. In addition to children's curriculum, she shares her student ministry activities and lesson ideas on [YouthGroupMinistry.com](#)

My name is [Tony Kummer](#) (pictured below). I started Ministry-To-Children.com in 2007 as a free resource for anyone sharing Jesus with kids. Don't miss our new websites; [Devotional Christian](#) and [10 Bible Verses](#) to help you focus on personal prayer and quiet times.



[Reader donations](#) and your support at [The Sunday School Store](#) fund these free materials. Please keep us in mind when you are choosing your next children's ministry curriculum. If you enjoy our material, be sure to [sign-up for my free email newsletter](#) called "Sunday School Works!" Every Tuesday, I send the latest new lessons, crafts, and coloring pages in print-friendly format to make your lesson planning easy. May God continue to bless your ministry!

*Tony Kummer*

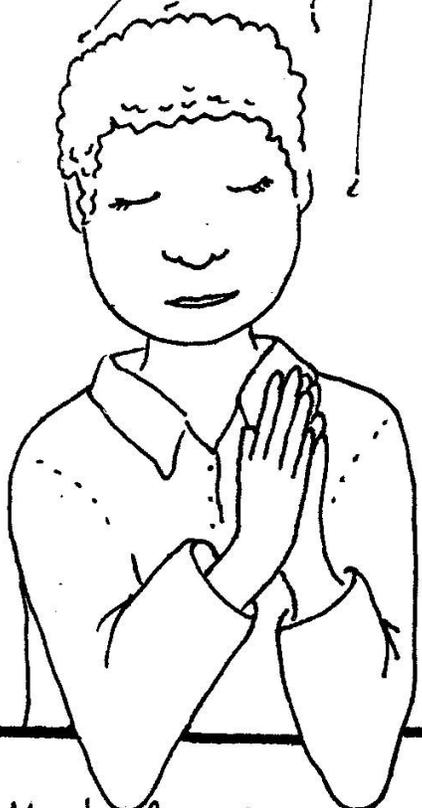
# How2pray



THE WHO...

Dear

Father in heaven



Mandy Groce '11

ministry-to-children.com

# How 2 pray



THE WHAT...

Give us this day our daily bread.



# How2pray



THE How...

Forgive us our sins.

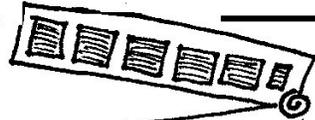


as we forgive others...

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# How 2 pray



THE WHEN...

Lead us not into



temptation

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# How2pray



THE WOW!





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