

The Lord's Prayer

VIDEO LINK

http://youtu.be/WS_jMhom0UA

GOAL SUMMARY

The goal of this video is to help students connect with the Lord's Prayer in a new way, by not praying the prayer as a matter of routine, but to pray with new vigor and trust in God our Father.

VIDEO SUMMARY

In this video, Mark Hart talks about his experience growing up Catholic and how he came to pray the Lord's Prayer more as a matter of habit than as an experience of prayer. He discusses how positively our lives can change when we earnestly pray (not just say) the Our Father and encounter God the Father in the prayer.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why is the Lord's Prayer a beautiful family heirloom that we should treasure?
2. When you pray the Lord's Prayer, what can you do to ensure that you are not just saying your prayer, but that you are earnestly praying?
3. God desires to truly be our Father; how does praying the Lord's Prayer allow him to be that for us?
4. What is the biggest difference between praying "my will be done" and "Thy will be done"?
5. What are steps you could take to surrender to God and his will instead of trying to live life according to your own will?

SEND

The Lord's Prayer can become so familiar to us that we can forget how powerful it is. This prayer, given to us by Jesus himself, is a beautiful way to encounter God and connect with Him as we pray, even though the words may seem routine because we say them so often.

To close, have the students meditate on Jesus' words as you read from the Gospel of Matthew, Chapter 6, verses 5-13:

"And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by men. Truly I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And in praying do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard for their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. Pray then like this: 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 debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."