

February 25-March 3 Matthew 6-7

“HE TAUGHT THEM AS ONE HAVING AUTHORITY”

1. I Can Draw Closer to God Through Humble, Sincere Prayer: Show video “Primary Kids Explain Prayer” https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4N1FAyp_6zQ . Summarize some of the things it talks about. Who are we talking to when we pray? What should/shouldn't we do while praying? Summarize why prayer is so important. Mom/Dad share stories of times we've prayed.
2. Bean Bag Toss- Explain that since prayer is so important, in the scriptures it tells about how Jesus taught us to pray. Have the bean bag toss pictures laid upside down on different spots on the floor. Everyone takes turn tossing a bean bag (or small stuffed animal or whatever similar item we can find) on the pictures. Turn over whichever picture the bean bag lands on and spend time reading the scripture on each one and discussing them.
3. Jesus Praying – Show picture of Jesus (*I Have Prayed for Thee* by Del Parson). What kinds of things do you think Jesus prayed for? Were his prayers heartfelt? Does he look like He's being reverent in this picture? Do you think He showed respect and love for Heavenly Father while He prayed? Encourage them to follow the example of Jesus while we pray.
4. Song- Sing “I Pray in Faith” and talk about the order of different parts of prayer.
5. Prayer Sandwiches – Everyone sit in a circle. Have the pieces to the prayer sandwich printed and cut out. Have them remind you how we start prayers (“Dear Heavenly Father”). How do we end prayers? (“In the name of Jesus Christ, amen”) What can be in the middle of prayers? Remind them that we should thank Him for our blessings before we ask for things. Brainstorm lots of things we could say thanks for. Brainstorm things that could be good to ask Him for as well. Show them the pieces of bread and explain that these represent the beginning and end of prayers. These are always the same, but what's in the middle can change. Take turns role-playing what could be said in prayers. One person in the circle starts with the first piece of bread. Have them say what part that represents (“Dear Heavenly Father”). The next person chooses one of the middle parts of the sandwich to put on the bread and says something that could be said next in a prayer (“Thanks for our home/food/etc.”). Keep going around the circle taking turns, and then remind the last person to put the last piece of bread on top of all of the sandwich parts and say, “In the name of Jesus Christ, amen.” Do this a couple of times with different middle parts in the prayer sandwich if time/interest. Remind them that prayers shouldn't always be exactly the same.
 - Share/summarize Matthew 7:7-11 and remind them that you know that Heavenly Father hears them every time they pray and He wants to answer them because He loves them.
6. Golden Rule (I should treat others the way I want to be treated)- Read/summarize Matthew 7:12. One thing we can pray for is help remembering and following the Golden Rule. Cut apart the pictures and go through them one at a time. Ask kids if this is how they would want to be treated. Maybe draw a circle on a separate piece of paper and place all of them that they think they'd want to be around because they act kindly in the circle. Then tie it back to them. If these people in the

circle are treating you in a way that you'd want to be treated, what does that mean about how you should act toward other people? Go through the cards in the circle and think about specific times/ways we can do similar things for other people.

- Matthew 6:19-21 Does our heart want to do the good things like we talked about last week? Remind them that Satan gives no lasting reward, but that doing these nice things will help make us happier and make it easier for Heavenly Father to bless us.

7. Treat – Ice cream sandwiches to remind them of the steps of prayer (prayer sandwich).

Additional Ideas:

- “Sermon on the Mount: Treasures in Heaven” video from lds.org at the end to sum it all up.
- Prayer Bingo: <http://myldsprojects.blogspot.com/2013/07/i-can-pray-to-heavenly-father-primary.html?m=1> . Could also cut the pictures apart, sort into piles of ways to pray, things to thank for, things to ask for, people to pray for.
- Prayer Flip-Book: https://www.lds.org/bc/content/shared/content/images/gospel-library/manual/37108_019.jpg cut solid lines, fold dotted lines. Lift flaps one at a time while you talk about steps of prayer.

Bean Bag Toss Pictures:

Matthew 6:7

But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.

Vain repetitions means praying without heartfelt feeling.

What should your heart feel like when you're praying?

Is it easier to feel those feelings in your heart when you're kneeling or standing/running around?

Does it help us to feel these feelings when we close our eyes and fold our arms?

What should we be thinking about when we pray?



Matthew 6:9

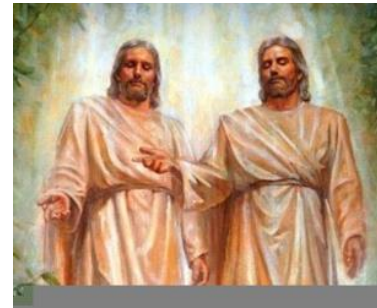
After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

This means that when we pray, we should treat Heavenly Father's name with reverence.

We say "Thee" and "Thy" instead of "you" because it shows more respect for Him.

What are some other ways we can show respect and love for Heavenly Father while we pray? (kneel, don't talk or shout while others are praying, etc.)

Remind them that we start prayers by saying "Dear Heavenly Father" and that Heavenly Father really is listening when we pray.



Matthew 6:10

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

This means that we should pray for things that are the Lord's will (things that He knows are good).

Remind them of the "funny scriptures" from Dec. 31- Jan. 6 lesson (also in Matthew 7:9-10). Will Heavenly Father give us bad things if we ask for good things? (no). Does that mean He'll give you a candy bar if you ask for one? (no). He'll give us things that He knows are important/good. What are some things that would be good to pray for? What things wouldn't be good to pray for? What kinds of things do you think the Lord wants to give to us and others around us?

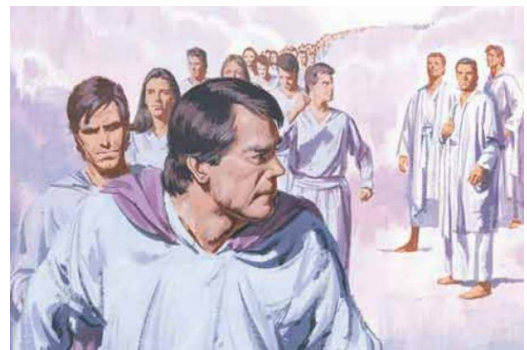


Matthew 6:13

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

This means that we can pray to Heavenly Father to help us do things Jesus wants us to do instead of things Satan would want us to do.

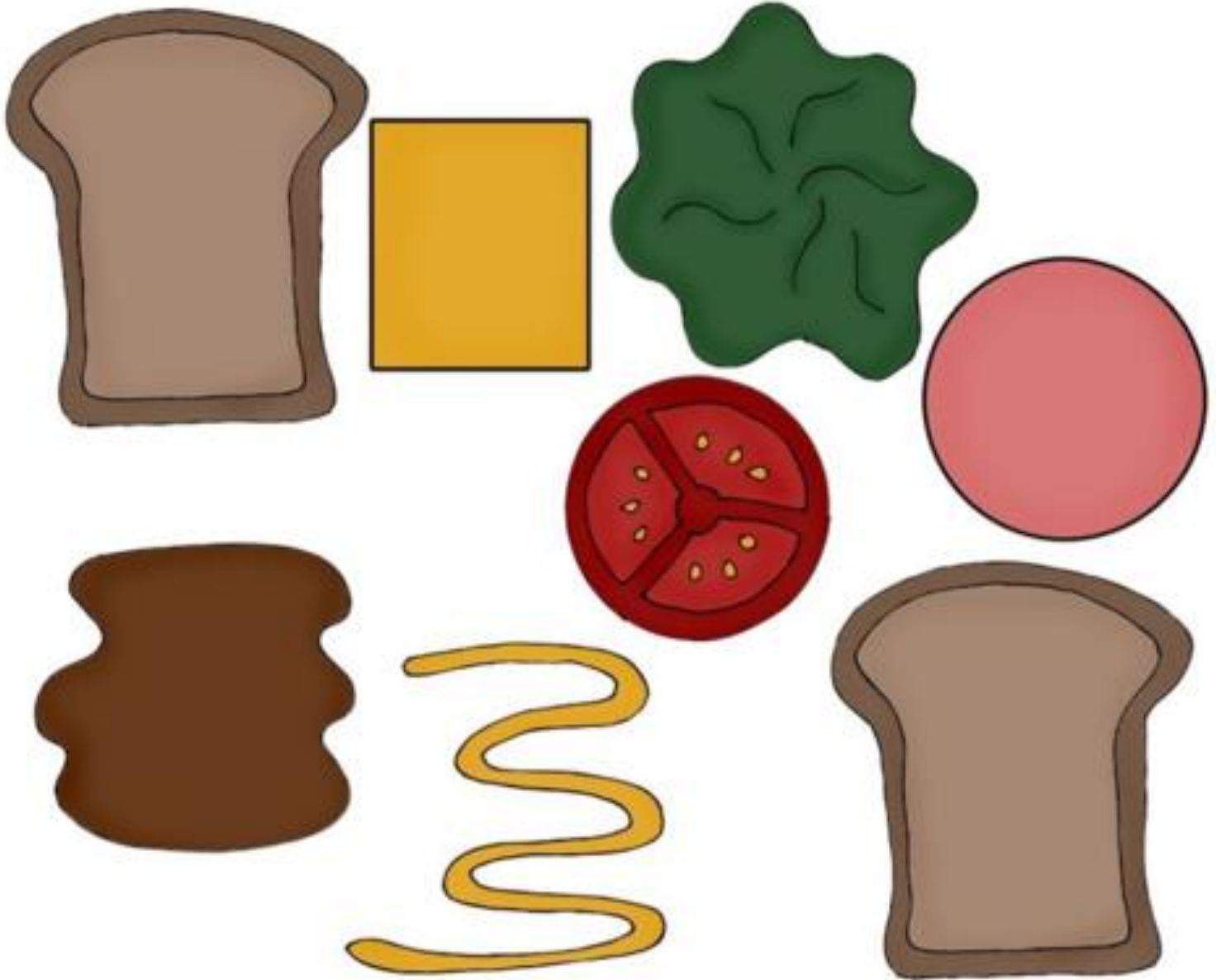
Also remind them that when we end prayers, we say, "In the name of Jesus Christ, amen."



Jesus Praying



The Sandwich Prayer



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12 to 1 Temple Count Down is Begun
www.brightlystreet.com

The Golden Rule:

Lizzie asks you if you want to play with her very favorite stuffed animal.



Someone said something mean to you and it made you sad. Goofy tried to cheer you up by acting silly.



You accidentally took Goofy's favorite toy out of the toy box. Instead of politely asking you if he could have a turn, he got mad at you.



You were playing on the slide at the playground and fell and hurt yourself. Batman came to help you and gave you a cool Band-Aid to use.



You were playing on the slide at the playground and fell and hurt yourself. The Joker laughed and said, "Ha! Ha! Ha! I can't believe you fell!"



You ask the Big Bad Wolf to help you clean. He laughs and tells you no.



Donald asks you if you want to play with some new toys he got for his birthday.



Donald tells you to give him your toys because he wants to play with them.



You were alone at the park. Donald saw you and invited you to play with him and his friends.

