

Here is a simple guide to help your family pray together.



Pray for **FAMILY MEMBERS.**



Pray for your **NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS.**



Pray for **OUR CHURCH.**



Pray for **OUR MISSIONARIES.**



Pray for **PEOPLE WE KNOW WHO DON'T KNOW JESUS.**



Pray for **OUR GOVERNMENT AND LEADERS.**



Pray for **OTHER CHRISTIANS AROUND THE WORLD**—especially those who are treated badly because they are followers of Jesus.

For questions, contact:

Wheaton Bible Church Director of Children's Ministry Ginny Stair
gstair@wheatonbible.org, 630.876.6636

Tri-Village Church Children's Ministry Coordinator
Jennifer Westering, jwestering@trivillagechurch.org, 630.876.6657



Church and Family Partnering Together



Today's Big Idea

The Pharisee and the Tax Collector
Read about it: Luke 18:9–14



The Main Point

God rejects the proud but gives grace to the humble.



What Did We Learn?

- ▶ Jesus told a parable to teach about humility.
- ▶ The Pharisee prayed in a way that tried to glorify himself.
- ▶ The tax collector knew he needed God to save him from sin.
- ▶ God rejects the proud but gives grace to the humble.

TODAY'S CHRIST CONNECTION

The tax collector knew he needed God to forgive him, and he cried out to God. Everyone is a sinner who needs forgiveness. Jesus took the punishment for our sin by dying on the cross. We can cry out to God like the tax collector and because of Jesus, God will forgive us.



LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT WEEK

PREPARING FOR SUNDAY

Open your Bible to Matthew 21:33–45 and read together as a family about the wicked tenants. Or read the children's version of the passage below.

Jesus was teaching in the temple. He told the religious leaders to listen to this story: "A landowner planted a vineyard. He rented the vineyard to some tenants and left the country.

"When it was time for the harvest, the owner sent some servants to get his grapes. But the tenants beat up one servant, killed another, and threw stones at a third.

"So the owner sent more servants to his vineyard, but the tenants attacked them, too.

"Finally, the owner sent his son. He expected the tenants to respect him. But the tenants threw the son out of the vineyard and killed him."

Jesus asked, "When the owner comes back to the vineyard, what do you think he should do to those tenants?"

The religious leaders answered, "They deserve to die!"

Then Jesus said, "So I tell you, God's kingdom will be taken away from you and given to people who do what He commands."

When the religious leaders heard Jesus' story, they knew that Jesus was talking about them.

DISCUSSION STARTERS

- ▶ Why did the tenants kill the owner's son? Who did the son represent?
- ▶ How did the religious leaders treat God's Son when He came to earth?
- ▶ Do you think it's fair that God judges those who reject Jesus? Why or why not?

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Work with your kids to develop a plan of action if they are ever bullied or threatened by other people. Talk about how to love people who don't love Jesus.

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus told this story to teach the religious leaders about Himself. God sent His own Son, Jesus, to earth but the religious leaders rejected Him. Jesus is the cornerstone—the most important One of all. Only He can save us from our sin.

BIBLE READING THROUGH THE WEEK

Take time this week to read the Bible together as a family. Breakfast, dinner, or bedtime—you choose when and where.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Matthew 21:33–34	Matthew 21:35–36	Matthew 21:37–39	Matthew 21:40–41	Matthew 21:42–45

As you read, ask these questions:

- ▶ What is God teaching us?
- ▶ What does this show us about who God is?
- ▶ What do we need to ask God's help for to change?
- ▶ How would you share this with a friend?

UNIT MEMORY VERSE

When Jesus ... saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things. —Mark 6:34