

The Lord's Prayer

The fall edition of the Spark Family Magazine is devoted to helping children explore the Lord's Prayer through Old and New Testament Stories. If your child does not know the Lord's Prayer, this would be a great time to help them learn important prayer.



Martin Luther wrote the Small Catechism in 1529 to assist parents in teaching the Christian Faith to their children. Lutherans in 2020 still confess and study these important words. In the 'Small Catechism', Luther includes sections on the Ten Commandments, The Apostles' Creed, The Lord's Prayer, The Sacrament of Holy Baptism, The Sacrament of Holy Communion, and the Office of the Keys (Confession). Click this link to see what Luther says. <http://catechism.cph.org/en/lords-prayer.html> (Document with Luther's explanations)

Borrow a copy of the Spark Story Bible (used in Sunday School) the next time you are at the church. Or read the stories in your Paraclete Bible for Kids which your child received during their preschool years. (Not all the stories are in this version however.) For older children, use a regular Bible to look up the story. **Matthew 6:5-15.**

Here are some additional ideas and discussions starters to do with your family as you explore this example that Jesus gave us on how to pray.

- Discuss: Who are we talking to when we pray? The Lord's prayer begins with "Our Father." In prayer we talk to God. Is talking to God like talking to someone on the phone. What is the same? What is different? Call a friend or family member on the phone. Find out how they are doing. Tell them about your school day, what you had for dinner, or who you played with today. Ask them if they need anything and tell them that you will say a prayer for them!
- Make a list of all the names for God that you can think of. Make a collage of pictures and words to demonstrate the names for God.
- The Spark Story Bible story which begins on page 278, uses the new version of the Lord's Prayer instead of the Old English version. How is it the same and different? Which one do you like better and why?