



## Introduction

This Faith Trail marker is designed to encourage parents to take the lead in teaching their children the Lord's Prayer. This session will provide an opportunity for both parents and children to learn more about the Lord's Prayer as well as discovering that talking to God is easy! Praying the prayer Jesus taught us can also help us trust God for all we need.

## Things to do

- Organise name tags.
- Make copies of the *Lord's Prayer with Actions* (Appendix 1).
- Print copies of the *Parent Discussion Sheet* (Appendix 2).
- Print a copy of *Luther's explanation from The Small Catechism* (Appendix 3). This may be useful for the facilitator of the Parent Discussion Group to be familiar.
- Ask a volunteer to make pretzels with the children and adults. This includes pre-making enough dough for each child.
- Print copies of the *Pretzel Prayer* (Appendix 4).
- Organise copies of blessing on page 3 for conclusion of session.
- Print and laminate the *Lord's Prayer poster* (see separate document) or insert the Lord's Prayer into decorated frames (Appendix 5).

## Things you need

- Picture of Jesus teaching the disciples - use a children's Bible.
- Children's Bible story of The Lord's Prayer.
- Baking paper
- Cardboard or craft frames for painting and decorating. Available from art and craft suppliers.
- Tracts from LLL Tract Mission. [www.ltm.org.au](http://www.ltm.org.au).

## Session Outline

1. Welcome & Warm-up.
2. Naming the Faith Trail marker.
3. Equipping the Parents: Handout
4. Equipping the Children: Decorating frames & making Prayer Bread.
5. End of Session Blessing  
*Ideally the families and children will take part in a **Rite of Gifting** and blessing during the worship service following the Faith Trail event.*
6. Rite of Gifting (see separate file).

## Welcome and Warm Up

- As the children and adults arrive invite them to write a nametag for themselves and sit in a circle.
- Once everyone has arrived, introduce yourself and invite any additional leaders to do the same.
- Then, go around the circle, inviting each participant to introduce themselves.
- Following the introductions, introduce the topic of the event. You could ask the group if they know the Lord's Prayer? A follow-up question might be: I wonder where you have heard the Lord's Prayer being prayed?



## Naming: TRAIL MARKER SIX: Lord's Prayer

Show a picture of Jesus teaching the disciples from a children's Bible. 'Does anyone know who this is?' Tell how Jesus' friends wanted to learn about God and how they could talk to God. Ask, 'How can we talk to God?'

Read the story of the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) from a children's Bible. Emphasise that this prayer is Jesus' prayer, taught to his followers including us.

Distribute copies of *The Lord's Prayer with Actions* (Appendix 1). Jesus said, "You may just talk to God as you would the most loving Father in the whole wide world. Because God loves you so much that he considers you one of his children, you can call God 'Father'" Say each part of this prayer after me doing the actions.

## Equipping

# SAMPLE

### FOR PARENTS

For the parent discussion, ask an assistant to take the children to decorate their frames.

Hand out copies of *The Lord's Prayer—Parent Discussion Sheet* (Appendix 2). This will help parents to get to know each other a little better.

If your group is large you may invite parents to discuss the sheet in smaller groups, spending a little time at the end for summarizing the small group discussions.

Close the sessions with words of encouragement and challenge parents to make the Lord's Prayer part of every day this week!

### FOR CHILDREN

#### Decorating frames for the Lord's Prayer

You will need cardboard or chip board frames, paint, textas, stickers or whatever you would like to supply for the children to decorate their frame. When frames are complete insert words of the Lord's Prayer and present to them during the Rite for Gifting.





## Activity

### FOR PARENTS & CHILDREN

#### Pretzel (Prayer Bread) Making

Give each child a piece of baking paper. Ask children to write their name in one of the top corners of the paper.

Give each child a piece of dough and show them how to roll in/out into a long snake and loop it into the shape of a pretzel.

Tell the children that this 'Prayer Bread' reminds us of what our hands look like when we pray. Have children fold their thumbs to see the similarity to the pretzel shape. Comment that the 'Prayer Bread' looks like folded hands and that when we fold our hands Jesus tells us to pray for daily bread and all that we need each day.

Brush finished bread with beaten egg and sprinkle it with coarse salt. Leaving pretzels on baking paper, place on tray and bake until golden brown.

Have a volunteer watch and bake pretzels while children and parents gather for blessing.

When children return to pick up their Prayer Bread you may like to include a copy of the *Pretzel Prayer* (Appendix 4).



## Blessing

L: Leader

**P: Parents**

L: For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven. Welcome to this time of change, excitement and new opportunities.

PRAYER

**P: Dear Lord Jesus, you have asked us to grow in our faith through worship, Bible reading and prayer. May this year provide (name of child) with the opportunity to grow in your love. Amen.**

BIBLE TEXT

L: So I say to you, 'Ask, and it will be given you, search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you.' Luke 11:9

RITUAL ACTION

Parents make the sign of the cross on the forehead of their child while saying these words,

**P: (Name), Child of God, may your heart be open to learning the love of Jesus.**

BLESSING

Parents place hand on head or shoulder of child and say together:

**P: (Name), child of God, may you know the joy of both talking and listening to God in prayer. Amen.**

SAMPLE



## Gifting

### AT THE CONCLUSION OF SESSION

Pretzel and Pretzel Prayer

Prayer Tracts: Suitable tracts from the Lutheran Tract Mission. Visit their website [www.ltm.org.au](http://www.ltm.org.au) for available tracts.

### AT TIME OF BLESSING DURING WORSHIP SERVICE

#### **The Lord's Prayer**

If you have arranged for children to paint/decorate a frame, insert the words of the Lord's Prayer (Appendix 5) or print and laminate *The Lord's Prayer* poster (see separate document).

#### **Lord's Prayer marker pebble.**

These are available for purchase from

Dawn DeWes-Christensen  
810 Linden Street  
Decorah, Iowa 52001 USA  
Email: [dcprairie@q.com](mailto:dcprairie@q.com)



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