



Central Kids Summer Field Guide

Week of July 19th

Over the next several weeks we are encouraging families to use this Field Guide to interact with your kids on Sunday morning or mid-week to learn catechism, *a collection of biblical truths in a question and answer format*. We will be using The New City Catechism curriculum to help construct a fun and creative way for your kids to memorize doctrine. Check out <http://newcitycatechism.com/videos> to learn more. These Field Guides are designed for family worship or devotional time. However, they can be used individually for older children.

HOW CATECHISM WORKS: Read the question and answer with your child and repeat. Then ask your child the question and have them give the catechism answer. The Field Guide offers additional activities to make learning fun and to help your children memorize God's Word.

MEMORIZATION TIPS: The key to memorizing is repetition. Be creative: turn it into a song, write it down, cut out the words and place them in order, use funny voices, or make up actions.

FAMILY WORSHIP: Motions (The Lord's Prayer) by Saddleback Kids <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZqQMxMWXJ7E>

Catechism Question #40

QUESTION: What should we pray?

ANSWER: The whole Word of God directs us in what we should pray.

Activity: God Speaks to Me

Introduce question 40. Remind your children that Christians are in a relationship with God, and because of Jesus death and resurrection, they can come directly to God in prayer. Explain to your kids that prayer is having a conversation with God and they can pray anytime and anywhere! The more Christians know and understand God, the easier it will be to know what to pray. God speaks to us through his Word, the Bible, and we respond in prayer. Use the *Q40 printable* for this next part. Tell your children that God has already started the conversation with us by speaking to us in his Word. The Bible verses on the printout are all things God has said to them. Give each child a printout and a pencil and invite your kids to respond to the conversation God has started. Spend a few minutes writing out prayers in response to each Bible verse. If it is a command, they may want to ask God to help them keep the command. If it's a promise, they may want to thank God for the promise. Remind them, that "The whole Word of God directs us in what we should pray." Say it again!

Activity: Right Foot or Left Foot

Ask your children to stand up. Tell them that people often pray in ways that go against what the Bible teaches instead of what the Bible commands. Tell them you are going to read out some prayers. If the prayer you pray agrees with what the Bible teaches, then they should stand on their right foot. If the prayer goes against something the Bible teaches, stand on your left foot. Start each prayer with Father.

- Father, I know I won't be happy unless I can have a new doll or Lego set, so please give me one. (L)
- Father, help me to be content with that I have. If it would be good for me, I would like a new bike. (R)
- Please don't let my mom know I stole money from her purse. (L)
- Forgive me for lying to my dad. Help me to have the courage to confess to him. (R)
- I know you have the power to heal. Please make my grandma better. (R)
- Thank you that it is always your will to heal us. Thank you that if we believed you have healed us, we won't ever need medicine. (L)
- I know you are too busy to be bothered. So I won't ask for you to help me on this test I'm about to take. (L)

Watch

Watch this additional resource by "Saddleback Kids". https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jB10aU5t_as

Catechism Question #41

QUESTION: What is the Lord's Prayer?

ANSWER: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today 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.

Craft: Bookmark

Print out the Lord's Prayer bookmark. Provide construction paper, markers and other fun things to create a bookmark your kids can keep in their Bible or prayer journal. As they decorate, take turns reading and memorizing the prayer out loud.

Activity: The Lord's Prayer Breakdown

Give your kids a printed copy of Matthew 6:9-13 or write it out. Explain that Jesus taught his disciples how to pray in these verses, and this should be used as the pattern of prayer for each believer. Have children read the prayer and ask them to do the following things on their paper:

- Circle the part of the prayer where Jesus addresses God.
- Put a squiggly line under the part where Jesus praises God the Father.
- Underline each request Jesus makes for himself and his disciples.

Ask your kids some questions to help them see what Jesus is teaching us about prayer.

1. Based on the way Jesus prays, how should we address God in our prayers? *Jesus teaches us to pray to God the Father. Christians have been adopted into God's family and therefore can call him Father.*
2. What Jesus mean when he talks about God's will be done? *Jesus is asking that many people would become Christians and love God with their whole hearts, and that they would act in accord with his Word.*
3. Why does Jesus ask for God's name to be hallowed? *This is a way of praising God and saying he should be respected and worshiped above all else.*
4. Why does Jesus pray for daily bread? He encourages us to pray for our essential daily needs. *This helps us to remember that every good gift is a gift from God. Without him, we wouldn't even have food.*
5. What does this model prayer teach us about forgiveness? *If we are seeking God's forgiveness, we must forgive those who have wronged us.*
6. Why does Jesus pray that we will not be led into temptation? *Because of our sinful nature, we are easily led astray by sin. We need God's help to recognize temptation and run from it.*

Activity: Prayer Journal

Pass out the prayer journal your child made last week. Ask your kids to write a prayer inspired by the model of the Lord's Prayer. It should include words of praise, requests about God's work in the world, requests for your needs, a request for forgiveness, and a request for help. They can make their prayers more specific. For example, they can list out more needs than just bread and can ask forgiveness for specific sins. Assure them that this is meant for God's eyes alone.

Prayer

Pray the Lord's prayer together as a family.

Discussion - Sometimes you or your child may have additional questions. Here are some possible questions that may come up:

Will God always answer our prayers? Yes, God always answers people's prayers, but it may not be in the way people want or expect. Sometimes he says yes, sometimes no, or sometimes he says to wait.

“All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned—every one—to his own way;
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.” (Isaiah 53:6)

“The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.” (Romans 8:16–17)

“And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 4:19)

“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.” (James 1:5)

“Do all things without grumbling or disputing.” (Philippians 2:14)

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” (1 John 1:9)

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
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