

Lesson Plan for Lesson 39

The Lord's Prayer: Human Need

Preparation and Supplies

- Study chapter 39, "The Lord's Prayer: Human Need," in the handbook.
- Gather two Bibles, newsprint, and markers.
- Make copies of the handout "Called to Pray Together" (Document #: TX003437), one for each participant.

Pray It! (5 minutes)

Tell the participants that class will begin with the Ignatian examen, in other words an examination of conscience. **Use** the process outlined in the Pray It! "Ignatian Examen," on page 429 in the handbook, to help the participants reflect on their day and how they had experienced God in it. After you read each step, allow a time of silence for the students to meditate.

Study It! (35 to 45 minutes, depending on your class length)

A. Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread

1. **Ask** two volunteers to read aloud the two Scripture passages of the Lord's Prayer, found in Matthew 6:9–13 and Luke 11:2–4. **Ask** the young people to list differences they noticed in the two versions of the Lord's Prayer. **Be prepared** with your own observations.
2. **Direct** the participants to read the chapter introduction and the section "Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread," on pages 425–428 in the handbook. The content covers points 1 through 3 on the handout "Lesson 39 Summary" (Document #: TX003436).
3. **(Optional) Direct** the young people to the Live It! "Teens Can Fight Hunger," on page 427 in the handbook. **Lead** a discussion on what they have done to fight hunger and how they may continue to do this.

B. Forgive Us as We Forgive Others

1. **Brainstorm** with the participants a list of temptations that young people face on a regular basis. **Write** the list on the board. Then **ask** the young people the following questions:
 - Why are these temptations so dangerous?
 - What can we learn from them?
2. **Direct** the participants to read the sections "Forgive Us as We Forgive Others" and "Lead Us Not into Temptation," on pages 428–432 in the handbook. The content covers points 4 through 7 on the handout "Lesson 39 Summary."



3. **(Optional) Lead** the young people in a discussion on when and where they have encountered evil in their lives. **List** on the board the most evil things happening in the world right now. **Discuss** why these evil things might be happening.

C. But Deliver Us from Evil

Direct the participants to read the section “But Deliver Us from Evil,” on pages 432–434 in the handbook. The content covers points 8 and 9 on the handout “Lesson 39 Summary.”

Note: If you are running short on time, you may wish to just briefly summarize this section of the handbook.

Live It! (15 to 20 minutes)

1. **Direct** the young people to form five groups. **Distribute** a sheet of newsprint and a marker to each group. **Designate** one of the following lines of the Lord’s Prayer to each group:
 - Give us this day
 - our daily bread
 - and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us
 - and lead us not into temptation
 - but deliver us from evil

Explain the task as follows:

- Each group is to identify in just a few words the central value or teaching of Jesus reflected in their assigned prayer phrase.
- Then each group is to identify at least three ways its portion of the prayer applies to and has meaning for young people today.
- Write the results of your discussion on the newsprint.

Note: You will need to circulate among the groups to ensure that they are able to correctly name the core value of each teaching. The following list can serve as a reference point for you:

- *Give us this day:* radical dependence on God
 - *Our daily bread:* ask for all essentials, share, rely on God
 - *and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us:* the need to forgive and to ask for forgiveness
 - *and lead us not into temptation:* an invitation to the Holy Spirit to keep watch with you and provide guidance
 - *but deliver us from evil:* prayer for the whole human family
2. **Gather** the participants back in a large group. **Invite** one person from each small group to come forward and present the results of the small-group discussion.
 3. **Share** the following comments in your own words:
 - The final four petitions of the Lord’s Prayer can be thought of as Jesus’ answer to the desires of the Christian heart. He teaches us to boldly ask that our lives be nourished, healed of sin, and made victorious in the struggle of good over evil.



- You have just identified how these petitions have meaning in our world today. We need to pray these as much today as Jesus' followers two thousand years ago needed to pray them.
- Even when we pray the Lord's Prayer in private, we pray in communion with the whole Church for the needs of the entire human family.

Closing Prayer (5 minutes)

Following any announcements, **distribute** a copy of the handout "Called to Pray Together" (Document #: TX003437) to each participant. **Select** two readers, one to read the Gospel reading and the other to read the petitions. **Lead** the closing prayer, inviting all to respond where appropriate.

