

Back-to-School  
**PRAYER  
CHALLENGE**


**COMPANION BIBLE READING PACKET**

★	<p><b>Philippians 4:6</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What does it mean to ask God for something “with thanksgiving”?</li> <li>• What would it sound like if we asked God for something without thanksgiving?</li> </ul>
★	<p><b>John 15:7</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What do you think it means to “abide” or “remain” in Jesus?</li> <li>• What kinds of things do you (or should you) ask God for?</li> </ul>
★	<p><b>Mark 11:24</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have you ever prayed for something and God granted you your request?</li> <li>• Does God ever say “no” to your requests? Why would he do that?</li> </ul>
★	<p><b>1 Thessalonians 5:17</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What does it mean to pray “continually” (or “without ceasing”)?</li> <li>• What part of the day do you think you could pray more in?</li> </ul>
★	<p><b>Romans 8:26</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have you ever felt so sad you didn’t know how to pray?</li> <li>• How does it feel to know that the Holy Spirit does this for us?</li> </ul>
★	<p><b>Matthew 6:5</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What does this kind of prayer look like in today’s context?</li> <li>• What “reward” did the hypocrites receive?</li> </ul>
★	<p><b>Matthew 6:6</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why do you think it is important to pray alone sometimes?</li> <li>• What reward do you think God will give those who pray in secret?</li> </ul>
★	<p><b>Matthew 6:7</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What does this kind of prayer sound like in today’s context?</li> <li>• How can you be sure you are avoiding this kind of prayer?</li> </ul>
★	<p><b>Matthew 6:8</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If God knows what we need before we ask, should we still pray?</li> <li>• Why or why not?</li> </ul>
★	<p><b>Matthew 6:9</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Put this phrase into your own words.</li> <li>• Why do you think it is important to say something like “hallowed be your name” when you pray?</li> </ul>
★	<p><b>Matthew 6:10</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Put this phrase in your own words.</li> <li>• Why do you think it is important to acknowledge God’s sovereignty when you pray?</li> </ul>
★	<p><b>Matthew 6:11</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Put this phrase in your own words.</li> <li>• What types of requests does Jesus want us to make when we pray?</li> </ul>

★	<p><b>Matthew 6:12</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Put this phrase in your own words.</li> <li>• Why do you think it's important to think about those that have sinned against us <i>as well as</i> our own sins when we pray?</li> </ul>
★	<p><b>Matthew 6:13</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Put this phrase in your own words.</li> <li>• How often do you find yourself praying this?</li> </ul>
★	<p><b>Luke 11:2-4</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compare this prayer with the one recorded in Matthew 6. How is it alike/different?</li> <li>• Do you think it is better to pray the same way all the time? Or to think of different words every time? Why or why not?</li> </ul>
★	<p><b>Luke 11:5-8</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why did the friend not want to give the bread?</li> <li>• Why does the friend end up giving the bread anyway?</li> </ul>
★	<p><b>Luke 11:9-10</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is Jesus teaching his disciples here?</li> <li>• What kinds of things can we ask God for?</li> </ul>
★	<p><b>Luke 11:11-13</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What kinds of good gifts has God given you?</li> <li>• Have you ever been afraid to ask God for something?</li> </ul>
★	<p><b>Jeremiah 33:3</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can we ask God for knowledge, wisdom, or understanding?</li> <li>• In what ways can God give us the knowledge we desire?</li> </ul>
★	<p><b>1 Timothy 2:1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What do you think the difference between petitions, prayers, intercession, and thanksgiving are?</li> <li>• Do your prayers tend to favor one of those categories?</li> </ul>
★	<p><b>1 Timothy 2:2-5</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• According to these verses, who should we pray for?</li> <li>• What should we pray for our leaders about?</li> </ul>
★	<p><b>James 5:13</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When should we pray?</li> <li>• Is there any time when it is not a good idea to pray?</li> </ul>
★	<p><b>James 5:14-15</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who is someone that you know that is sick?</li> <li>• Should you pray for them? Or is it just a job for elders?</li> </ul>

	<p><b>James 5:16</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• According to this verse, how should you pray for other people at church?</li> <li>• What kinds of things does a righteous person pray for?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>James 5:17-18</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why did Elijah pray these things?</li> <li>• Why did God grant him his request?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Ephesians 6:18</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• According to this verse, what kind of things should we pray for?</li> <li>• Who should we pray for?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Ephesians 6:19-20</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What was the writer of Ephesians asking for prayer for?</li> <li>• Who can you pray this prayer for now?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Psalms 34:17</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What kind of prayer is described in this verse?</li> <li>• What does the scripture say will happen if we pray like this?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Colossians 4:2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What do you think it means to “devote yourselves to” (or “continue steadfastly in”) prayer?</li> <li>• What do you think it means to be watchful?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Luke 6:27-28</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• According to these verses, who should we pray for?</li> <li>• How can we pray for someone like this?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Matthew 18:19-20</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do you think God thinks it is important for Christians to pray when they are together?</li> <li>• Why or why not?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>1 John 5:14</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What kinds of things might stop us from approaching God?</li> <li>• What do you think it means to ask “according to his will”?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Mark 1:35</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why do you think Jesus chose this way to pray?</li> <li>• Why was prayer important to Jesus?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Proverbs 15:29</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What does this verse warn us about?</li> <li>• Do you think that prayer is a “cause” or an “effect” of being a righteous person?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Isaiah 59:2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What does this verse warn us about?</li> <li>• If sin has separated us, how can we be reunited with God?</li> </ul>

	<p><b>1 John 3:22</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do our actions relate to answered prayers?</li> <li>• What kind of prayers/requests do you make of God when you are seeking to please him?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Psalms 145:18-19</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How can we be sure that God hears us when we pray?</li> <li>• What does it mean to “call on him in truth”?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Hebrews 4:16</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What kinds of things might stop us from approaching God?</li> <li>• Why are we able to boldly approach God’s throne?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>John 9:31</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What does this verse warn us about?</li> <li>• What type of person prays to God, but refuses to worship Him?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Proverbs 28:9</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What does this verse warn us about?</li> <li>• What does it look like when a person prays to God, but disobeys His laws?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Luke 18:1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What does it look like when we “always pray and not give up”?</li> <li>• Why do we tend to give up praying?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Luke 18:2-3</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Was the judge in the story good or bad?</li> <li>• What was the widow’s request?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Luke 18:4-5</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why didn’t the judge do what the widow wanted right away?</li> <li>• Why did the judge finally give in to the widow?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Luke 18:6-7</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How is God like the judge in the story?</li> <li>• How is God unlike the judge in the story?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Luke 18:8</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What does God promise to those who cry out to him?</li> <li>• What are some things we should be praying persistently about?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>James 1:5</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• According to this verse, if you lack wisdom, what should you do?</li> <li>• How often do you find yourself praying for God’s wisdom?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>James 1:6</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What does it look like/sound like when you pray with doubt instead of belief?</li> <li>• What does it mean to be a “wave of the sea”?</li> </ul>

	<b>Psalm 55:17</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What kind of prayer is described in this verse?</li><li>• How does it feel to know that God hears you when you are in deep suffering?</li></ul>
	<b>Psalm 141:2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What kind of prayer is described in this verse?</li><li>• How can we offer this type of prayer to God?</li></ul>
	<b>Romans 12:12</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What does it mean to be “constant” or “faithful” in prayer?</li><li>• Why is prayer so important?</li></ul>
	<b>Luke 18:9</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What does it look like when someone is “confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else”?</li><li>• What type of people in the Bible were like this?</li></ul>
	<b>Luke 18:10</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What type of person was a Pharisee?</li><li>• What type of person was a tax collector?</li></ul>
	<b>Luke 18:11-12</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What kinds of things did the Pharisee pray about?</li><li>• What might the Pharisee’s prayer sound like in today’s terms?</li></ul>
	<b>Luke 18:13</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What kinds of things did the tax collector pray about?</li><li>• What was the main difference between the Pharisee and the tax collector?</li></ul>
	<b>Luke 18:14</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What do the words “exalted” and “humbled” mean?</li><li>• How should we apply this verse to our prayer life?</li></ul>
	<b>Luke 22:42</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What did Jesus pray for in this verse?</li><li>• How should we respond when God answers our prayer with “no”?</li></ul>
	<b>Matthew 5:44</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• According to this verse, who should we pray for?</li><li>• How can you pray for someone who is persecuting you?</li></ul>