

RELIGIOUS STUDIES NOTES

HONOURING GOD

Prayer



While on earth, Jesus taught His followers many lessons about prayer. Key teachings about prayer include:

- Prayers done in secret will be rewarded openly
- Individuals should use honest and simple words
- God should be honoured before we make requests for food, forgiveness and protection
- God will give good gifts to His children.
- Individuals must ask and seek God for what they want.

Jesus taught His disciples a famous prayer called the "Lord's Prayer." He said that the first thing we must do when we pray is to honour God as "Our Father." We honour God in prayer by reverently addressing Him as Father, Saviour, Creator, Provider and other precious names. We also honour Him by telling Him how much we love him and by giving thanks for all He provides.

The Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13), can be analyzed in sections. The first two verses address God as Father and offer

praise to Him. In verses 11-13 special requests are made for food, forgiveness and protection. The prayer ends with the closing, "in Jesus' name."

Individuals should use the Lord's Prayer as a model for personal prayers. Our prayers should begin in praise to God for who He is. We can then ask Him to supply our daily needs and to forgive our sins. We should follow Jesus' example when we pray.