

# Memorandum

Date: March 7, 2023  
To: Area Directors, Region Directors, Seminary Principals, Seminary Teachers, Coordinators  
From: S&I General Announcement from the Administration  
Subject: **Supplement to the Lesson on Prayer for Seminary Students**



[\[Portuguese\]](#) [\[Spanish\]](#)

To help students learn how to make their prayers more meaningful, please include the following supplemental material in your lessons:

- [Luke 11:1–13](#) ..... Scheduled for the week of Mar. 13<sup>th</sup>
- [Acts 12:1–19](#) ..... Scheduled for the week of Jul. 17<sup>th</sup>
- [James 1](#) ..... Scheduled for the week of Nov. 13<sup>th</sup>

Elder Dallin H. Oaks taught, “The Prophet Joseph Smith said, ‘It is a great thing to inquire at the hands of God, or to come into His presence.’ ... The special language of prayer reminds us of the greatness of that privilege” (“[The Language of Prayer](#),” *Ensign*, May 1993, 18).

As you help students deepen their understanding of prayer, invite them to remember to Whom they are praying. This may include encouraging them to increase the sincerity and reverence of their prayers and teaching them to use the special language of prayer. For example, a prayer in English should include the “pronouns of the scriptures when we address God—Thee, Thou, Thy, and Thine, rather than the more common pronouns you, your, and yours” (Gospel Topics, “[Prayer](#),” topics.ChurchofJesusChrist.org).

In all languages, the words used in a prayer and the attitude with which a prayer is approached should demonstrate respect and reverence for Heavenly Father. Special emphasis should also be given to the name of Jesus Christ. Help students feel the importance of saying His name more thoughtfully and carefully throughout a prayer and especially when closing in the Savior’s name.

As you encourage students to improve their prayers, be sensitive to their personal situations and understanding, be patient with their progress, and help them recognize blessings that come from appropriately addressing Heavenly Father in the name of Jesus Christ.

## Luke 11:1–13

“Lord, Teach Us to Pray”



After hearing Jesus pray, “one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray” (Luke 11:1). Jesus responded with insightful teachings that can help strengthen our connection with Heavenly Father through prayer. This lesson can help you make your prayers more meaningful.

**Student preparation:** Invite students to reflect on what they have done to make their prayers more meaningful.

[Program Administrators] Please share these instructions with your stake seminary teachers.