

SUPPLEMENTAL LESSON ON PRAYER

JAMES 1 – NOVEMBER 13-17

To help students learn how to make their prayers more meaningful, please include the following supplemental material in your lesson in James 1. In the Come, Follow Me schedule, individuals and families will study James during the week beginning November 13.


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.

James 1
“Ask of God”



Do you feel that you can ask God for help when you have unanswered questions or need His wisdom in making important decisions? James declared that anyone who lacks wisdom can “ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally ... and it shall be given him” (James 1:5). This lesson is intended to strengthen your testimony that Heavenly Father will give you wisdom in answer to your prayers.