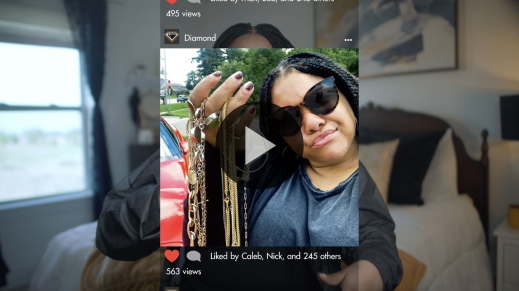
**Learn on Your Own**

**Day 1: An Attitude of Humility**

Review the video for this session.



**Engage**

Read [Luke 18:9–14](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Lk18.9-14).

**Consider**

As Christians, Jesus wants to talk with us daily. He wants us to chat with Him about things that are important to us. This passage reminds us that some people approach prayer differently. Let’s see what we can learn from them.

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**  What can you learn regarding prayer from the Pharisee and the tax collector? |

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**  Do you think some people today use prayer for the wrong reasons? If so, why and how might they do that? |

**Reflect**

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**  How would you describe prayer to someone who had no idea what it was? |

**Activate**

Like the tax collector in this passage, begin each prayer this week by confessing your sin and asking for forgiveness and mercy.

**Pray**

Jesus, You are teaching me this week that You want to talk to me. As I am learning how to pray, help me to be humble in my attitude toward You, recognizing that I am a sinner saved only by Your grace. Thank You for being patient with me. In Your name I pray. Amen.

**Learn on Your Own**

**Day 2: Keep It Going**

**Engage**

Read [Matthew 7:7–11](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Mt7.7-11).

**Consider**

Have you ever prayed for something, even multiple times? Has it seemed like either God is ignoring you, or He just doesn’t have the time to answer? Let’s look at what Jesus said about this.

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**  Look back at verse [7](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Mt7.7). What should we keep doing? |

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**  Do you think it’s okay to keep asking God for something over and over again? Why? |

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**  What do these verses say the result will be for those who keep praying? |

**Reflect**

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**  Why do you think God doesn’t always answer prayer immediately? |

**Activate**

Write down three things you need from God, and keep the list in a place you will see often. Pray for those three things every day this week. See how God answers.

**Pray**

Giving God, I read today that to be effective in my prayers I need to keep asking. It’s a mark of my faith and trust in You. You are a good God who desires to give me good gifts. Thank You that You hear me when I ask. I trust that You will respond according to Your will and timing. Amen.

**Learn on Your Own**

**Day 3: Your Will Be Done**

**Engage**

Read [Matthew 26:36–46](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Mt26.36-46).

**Consider**

Just hours before Jesus was crucified, He spent time in prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane. We can tell from His prayer and comments to His disciples that He knew the Cross was near. Still, He made time to talk to God.

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**  Part of Jesus’ prayer included, “If it is possible, let this cup of suffering be taken away from me.” Does it surprise you that Jesus asked that? Why or why not? |

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**  Jesus concluded His prayer with, “Your [God the Father] will be done.” What do you think this teaches us about our expectations regarding prayers? |

**Reflect**

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**  Is there anything you want God to take away from you? |

Jesus reminds us that as we face difficult things, we still need to be able to say, “Your will be done.” More importantly, we need to trust that God’s timing and the outcome He chooses are best.

**Activate**

Jesus asked His disciples why they couldn’t pray with Him for just one hour. Challenge yourself to pray for at least one hour this week. If an hour seems too long at one time, add up all the time you pray each day to see if you can talk with God for a total of at least one hour this week.

**Pray**

Jesus, thank You for giving Your life for me. I can’t imagine how hard it must have been for you in the Garden. You asked for a way out, but You submitted Yourself to the will of Your Father. Help me to trust in Him, even while in the middle of tough situations. Help me to spend time with You as I pursue God. Amen.

**Learn on Your Own**

**Day 4: The Right Prescription**

**Engage**

Read [James 5:13–18](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Jas5.13-18).

**Consider**

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**  What did James say you should do when you’re sick or suffering hardships? |

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**  What does [James 5:15](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Jas5.15) say about prayer? Why do you think prayer makes the difference? |

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**  What do you think it means to pray earnest prayers? |

This Scripture reminds us that we should pray for those around us who are sick or facing hard times, but it may not always be our initial response. Begin to change what’s normal in your life by making prayer your natural response to any challenges.

**Reflect**

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**  If someone told you they aren’t feeling well, would your first thought be to tell them to call the doctor or to pray for them? Why? |

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**  The Bible tells us Jesus healed the sick when He was on the earth. Do you believe that healing still happens today? Why or why not? |

**Activate**

Believing that God can use our prayers to heal takes faith. Faith grows as we pursue God. This week, allow God to grow your faith by being willing to pray for someone who needs healing. Find someone you know that you can pray for this week.

**Pray**

Father God, I want to have the faith of Elijah. He prayed that it wouldn’t rain, and it didn’t rain for three-and-a-half years! Keep my ears open to Your gentle nudge when You want me to pray for someone who needs healing. Give me the faith and confidence to pray prayers that bring great results. Amen.

**Learn on Your Own**

**Day 5: Even Enemies?**

**Engage**

Read [Matthew 5:38–48](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Mt5.38-48).

**Consider**

It’s such a joy to pray for our friends, our family, and people we love! But what about those people who get on our nerves? How about those who make fun of us or make rude comments on social media? What does Jesus say we should do about those people? Pray for them.

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**  What might loving our enemies have to do with pursuing God in our life? |

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**  What did Jesus say you’re supposed to do if someone slaps you on the right cheek? |

**Reflect**

To be a Christian today and stand up for what you believe is not readily tolerated by others. Some may make fun or even hate you simply because you love Jesus.

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**  So why do you think Jesus wanted us to pray for those who hate us because of Him? |

**Activate**

Are there people at school or even church you have problems with? Add their names to your prayer list and begin praying for them every day.

**Pray**

Father God, You loved even those who put Jesus on the Cross. Teach me that kind of love. It’s really easy to love and pray for the people I like and get along with. But it’s definitely not easy to pray for those I don’t like. Help me to pray for my enemies, those I don’t like, or those who don’t like me. I want to treat people just like Jesus did. Amen.