

Prayer and Humility

Genesis 18:25-27; Luke 18:9-14; 1 John 5:14-15

Devotional Reading: Psalm 141

Background Scripture: Nehemiah 1:4-11; Daniel 6:10;
Matthew 6:5-15; Luke 18:1-14; John 17:1-26

LESSON AIMS: the students will:

- List the characteristics of prayer from the lesson's Scripture texts
- Discern which occasions call for bold prayer and which occasions call for humble prayer
- State a way to ask God for good things while humbly sharing the Gospel with friends and neighbors

INTRODUCTION: This lesson talks about prayer, humility, and boldness. Abraham prayed, intervening on behalf of the righteous in Sodom. Abraham appeals, with humility, to God's justice and His righteousness. Luke contrasts the arrogance of one who came to the Lord with another who came in humility. First John reminds us that we can go to God in confidence, knowing that He hears us. We can ask anything according to His will.

KEY VERSE: *¹⁴I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.* Luke 18:14

LESSON OUTLINE:

Bold Prayer

Genesis 18:25 - 27

Humble Prayer

Luke 18:9 - 14

Confident Prayer

1 John 5:14 - 15

SUMMARY: Boldness, humility, and confidence in prayer are qualities that come from a conviction rooted in our faith in an all-wise and loving Father. When we go to God with the right attitude, we can approach our God without fear of rejection. Prayer, our communication with God, makes this conversation a reality and a lifeline. God is always ready, available, and willing to hear from us. He knows those who come in humility, recognizing that He is the source of mercy and help.

QUESTIONS:

1. *How can we avoid “bragging” in our prayers like the Pharisee?*
2. *What is the most important part of the publican’s prayer?*
3. *What type of prayer do you find infrequent in your life: bold, humble, or confident?*

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DAY / DATE	SCRIPTURE	
Mon., Jan. 12 th	Praying for Wisdom	James 1:2 - 8
Tue., Jan. 13 th	Praying and Seeking God	Jeremiah 29:10 - 14
Wed., Jan. 14 th	Praying with Thanksgiving	Philippians 4:4 - 9
Thurs., Jan. 15 th	Praying for Protection	Psalm 61
Fri., Jan. 16 th	Praying as Jesus Taught	Matthew 6:5 - 15
Sat., Jan. 17 th	Praying for Others	Genesis 18:23 - 33
Sun., Jan. 18 th	Praying for Mercy	Luke 18:9 - 14