

Just For Parents...

Today your children learned about The Lord's Prayer.

When the disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray (Luke 11:1-4), Jesus responded with what we know as the Lord's Prayer. We seem to think we should know instinctively about praying, but from their question we see that even the disciples -- who were with Jesus every day, witnessing his life and seeing how he prayed -- still needed help with praying.

Humans want to "do" everything correctly, to know the "right" way. But with the very first words of the prayer he signals a basic truth: ***prayer is not about rules but about relationship -- always relationship.***

There are three parts to this prayer:

- Praise: We praise God for who He is. We can pray to Him whenever and wherever we feel the need or desire to. We can even "pray without ceasing". (1 Thessalonians 5:17)
- Petition: We bring our needs to Him. People who don't see their need for anything are either foolish or proud.
- Intercession: Pray for loved ones and others as God leads us. We can have an impact on the world through prayer.