THE DISCIPLES' PRAYER

Lesson One

PRAY, THEN, LIKE THIS

Burden to Impart:

As the Lord's disciples one of our greatest privileges is to pray and know that our prayers are heard by Him.

Memory Verse: "Pray, then, like this..." (Matthew 6:9a).

Facts to Teach:

1. When the Lord Jesus walked on the earth His disciples observed that He would often spend time alone in prayer. They realized that He knew God in a very special way and had a very close relationship with Him.

2. Once, as the Lord Jesus was praying, His disciples realized that they did not know how to

pray, so they asked Him to teach them how (Luke 11:1-4).

3. However, before teaching the disciples how to pray, the Lord firstly taught them two

ways how they should NOT pray (Matt. 6:5-8).

4. We should not pray like the hypocrites (insincere actors) who love to pray so that others will see them and hear them. They pray only to draw attention to themselves and to glorify themselves.

5. Rather, we should sincerely pray to our Father from our heart, not so that others would see us, but realizing that He sees us. He very much desires to hear our prayers so He closely watches when we pray to Him. He so much desires us to pray that He will one

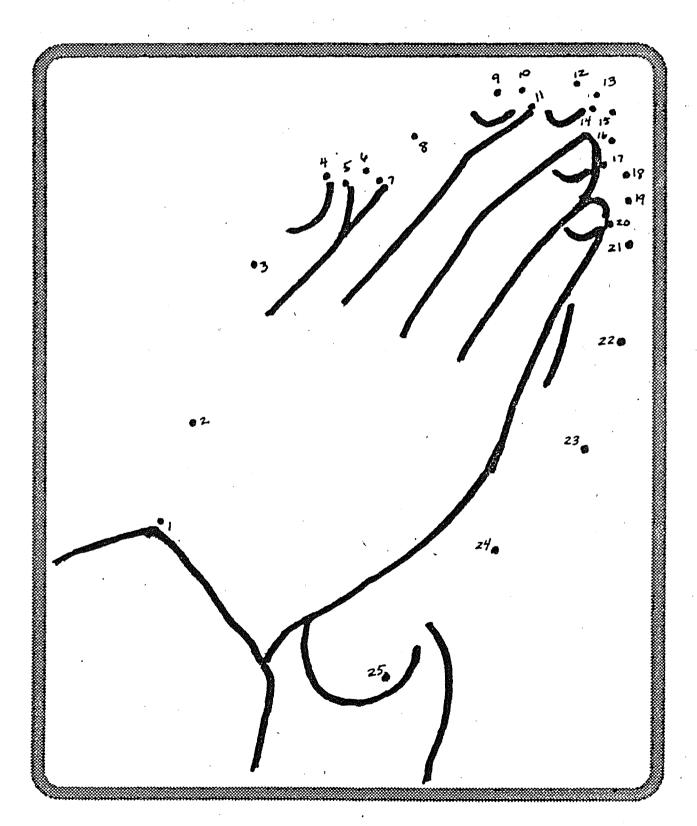
day even reward us for every sincere prayer we have offered to Him.

6. We should not repeat empty words when we pray. This means we should not try to "pad" our prayers with extra "stuffing," (words). We should pray simply and to the point, realizing that our Father already knows what we need, but He wants us to come to Him and tell Him our need anyway so that we may have fellowship with Him.



Let's Pray

Connect the dots to reveal what we are called as Christians to do for one another. (See James 5:16.)



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16ª Isa. 58:6-7; Matt. 9:14: 17:21; Acts 13:2 16^b Matt. 6:1, 5 17ª Eccl. 9:8 18ª Matt. 6:4, 6

16 And when you ^{la}fast, do not be like the sullen-faced hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so that they may bappear to men to be fasting. Truly I say to you, They have their reward in full.

17 But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face,

18 So that you may not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who is in *secret; and your Father who sees in secret will repay you.

5. Concerning the Material Riches of the Kingdom People 6:19-34

19 Do anot store up for yourselves treasures on the earth, where bmoth and rust consume and where thieves dig through and steal.

20 But 1store up for yourselves atreasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not bdig through nor steal.

21 For where your treasure is, there will your laheart be also.

22 The alamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is ¹single, your whole body will be full of light;

23 But if your eye is ¹evil, your whole body will be dark. If then the 2 light that is in you is a darkness, how great is the darkness!

24 No one can ¹serve ^atwo masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will hold to one and despise the other. You cannot ¹serve God and ^{3b}mammon.

12:15-21: Heb. 13:5 19^b James 5:2-3 20ª Matt. 19:21: Luke 12:33;

19ª Luke

18:22 20^b Matt. 24:43: Luke

12:39 21ª Luke 12:34 22ª vv.

22-23: Luke 11:34-36 23^a 1 John

24ª Luke 16:13 24^b Luke

16:9. 11, 13 heavenly Father forgive their offenses. In such a case, their prayer will be frustrated.

161 To fast is not to refrain from eating; it is to be unable to eat because of a desperate burden to pray for certain things. It is also an expression of self-humbling in seeking God's mercy. To give alms is to give what we have the right to possess, whereas to fast is to give up what we have the right to enjoy.

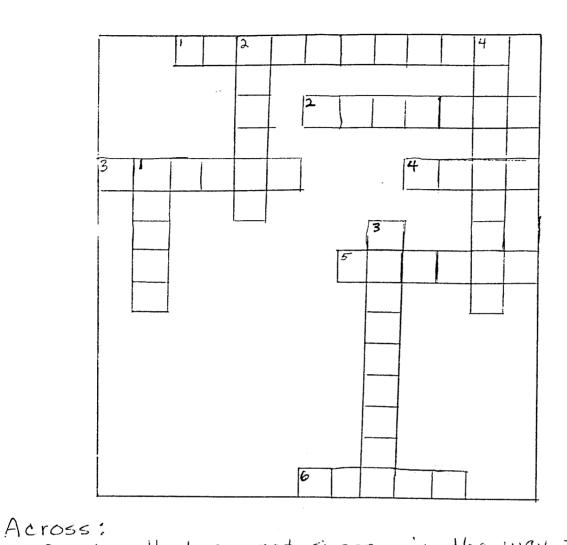
191 The fifth section of the King's decree, vv. 19-34, concerns the riches of the kingdom people.

201 To store up treasures in heaven is to give material things to the poor (19:21) and to care for the needy saints (Acts 2:45; 4:34-35; 11:29; Rom. 15:26) and the Lord's servants (Phil. 4:16-17).

211 The kingdom people must send their treasure to heaven so that their heart also can be in heaven.

221 Our two eyes can focus on only one thing at a time. If we endeavor to see two things at once, our vision will be blurred. If we focus our eyes on one thing, our vision will be single and our whole body will be full of light. If we store up our treasure both in heaven and on earth, our spiritual vision will be blurred. For our vision to be single, we must store up our treasure in one place.

231 To look at two objects at the



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Down: 1. In the Bible, Jesus would often pray all by himself,
2. Our speaking to the Lord is our now to pray.
4. When we pray from our heart we pray -