

MAKE UP WORK

From: Greatest Prayer (September 16, 2009)

Quiz

1. True or False: Jesus taught the disciples the Lord's Prayer so that they would teach it to others.
2. True or False: The Lord's Prayer works best at night, just before bed.
3. True or False: When we pray the Lord's Prayer, we are joined to Christians throughout the world.
4. True or False: Luther reminded us that prayer is a mandate from God.
5. Jesus taught that God knows what we need
 - a. most of the time.
 - b. even before we ask.
 - c. but our moms think they know even more.
 - d. but needs to be reminded about what we want.
6. The proper posture for saying the Lord's Prayer is
 - a. arms raised in a football-type victory position.
 - b. the fetal position.
 - c. any difficult yoga position will work.
 - d. There is no "proper posture" except openness to God.
7. Jesus taught his disciples the Lord's Prayer:
 - a. on a slow afternoon for fishing.
 - b. to emphasize their relationship to God.
 - c. because he wanted to test them later on.
 - d. so they would be ready for confirmation.
8. God hears prayers
 - a. on Tuesdays or Thursdays, depending on your last name.
 - b. from confirmation teachers every week.
 - c. 24/7 in every language.
 - d. from your Grandma about your report card.

Think about this....

Muslims pray five times a day, facing the direction of Mecca. What do you think it would be like if Christians stopped what they were doing five times a day, knelt, and prayed the Lord's Prayer?

How might this be a good idea?

What might not be helpful about this?

Do you remember when you first learned the Lord's Prayer? When and who taught you?

Can you remember a time when praying the Lord's prayer was really meaningful?

Handbook Connection

Read "How to Pray (*The Lutheran Handbook*, pages 91 and 92). Have you used any of these prayer postures? Have you used any other not mentioned here?

Open the Catechism

Open the catechism to the Introduction to the Lord's Prayer (*The Lutheran Handbook*, page 207), and read it with its meaning. Why is it such a big deal to call God something as personal as "Father" rather than "Your Highness" or "Most Mysterious and Important Ruler"?

Why do you think the prayer is to "Our" not "My" Father?

Bible Connection: Matthew 6:5-15

Open your Bible to Matthew 6:5-15.

In Jesus-specific instructions to the disciples regarding prayer what does he say NOT to do?

What does he say TO do?

Closing Questions

Do you think the Lord's Prayer is mostly about the words and what we are praying about, or is it mostly about the comfort it gives us because we know it so well?

Could you ever pray the Lord's Prayer with a friend? With your family?