

TEACHER GUIDE


TELL Bible Pathway

Part 1

Lesson 27



Prayer | telnetwork.org

 **Watch video 27.** Play the second video. Make sure all participants can see the screen and hear the audio. If you don't have a large enough screen or have trouble displaying the video, ask students to watch the video on their own before class. The Bible story is Luke 11:1-13.

Lesson Goal: The goal of this class is to answer this question: "What is prayer?"

Pre-Lesson Preparation: Read Luke 11:1-13.

Live Class Greet those who are listening to the class.

Prayer Asks for God's blessings, focusing on the theme of the lesson, and effectively ending the greeting time and calling the lesson to order. The following prayer can be used:

Dear Heavenly Father, we thank you that through your Son we have complete access to you in prayer. Forgive all the times when we have not appreciated that gift as we should. Remind us daily of our privilege in prayer. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Introduce The Course

- a. Explain the purpose of the course.
- b. Ask all to show respect for the teacher and other students by writing appropriate questions and comments on the Facebook Live chat.
- c. Explain that the **TELL** method is a teaching style with the goal of telling others what you've learned. The letters **T-E-L-L** represent four sections of study: **T** for Think, **E** for Evaluate, **L** for Learn and **L** for Lead.

Think: A powerful introduction that gets you thinking about an interesting topic, or question

Think about this: How often do you pray? Do you know what God promises through prayer? We will try to answer these questions as we evaluate Luke 11:1-13.

Evaluate (brings more meaning and context to the lesson)

1. Who are the characters in the story? *Jesus and his disciples*
2. What are the objects in the story?

3. Where did the story take place? *Luke 11:1 says it was "a certain place."*
4. When did the story take place? *Right after Jesus had finished praying*
5. What is the problem? *The problem is that sometimes we do not take advantage of this great gift of prayer, or we may not believe in or understand its power.*
6. What happened in the story? *Jesus' disciples saw him praying, and one of them asked him to teach them how to pray. Jesus taught them what we know as the Lord's Prayer. He encouraged them to go to God in prayer and ask, seek, and knock.*
7. Was the problem solved? *Yes. Jesus says that God promises to answer those who seek him in prayer. It may not always be the answer we're hoping for, but we can be confident it's the answer that will be the best for us.*

Learn (identify that sin is the problem and only God has the answer)

1. What is the main theme of the lesson? *Prayer is our communication with God. He allows us to go to him freely and without fear.*
2. What sin does this lesson teach you to confess? *One sin might be doubting God and not trusting his ultimate wisdom.*
3. Where do you see the love of God in the lesson? *God shows us that we are his children when we are taught to refer to him as our father. He promises to send his Holy Spirit when we go to him in prayer.*
4. What does God teach you to do in the lesson? *God teaches us to pray fervently and trust his will in every situation.*

Lead (share this with a group of your brothers and sisters in Christ)

1. What would be a good situation in which to share this message? *This would be good to share with someone who may not understand that God hears our prayers and promises to answer them.*

Additional questions (add depth to the lesson)

1. Why do we have complete access to God in prayer? *We are children of God through the merits of Jesus Christ.*
2. Why is it important to pray "your will be done"? *God alone knows what is best. In his ultimate wisdom, he has a plan for our lives.*
3. Why is it dangerous and wrong to think we can convince God to answer our prayers through our actions, such as fasting and vigils? *When we think we need to add something to our prayers so that they will be heard favorably by God, we might be tempted to think, "Because I did this, God answered my prayer the way I wanted him to answer it." That's a false belief.*

Lesson Wrap-Up

1. Ask the key question: What is prayer? *Allow time for various answers, and make sure that everyone is very clear about what prayer is and what promises God gives us through it.*

Closing End with a prayer thanking God for the people he has brought together to learn about him and his Word, or with a blessing for the group.

Extra information for the teacher: Topics that may come up during the class

To whom do we pray – Prayer is an act of worship, and God is the only one who should receive that kind of worship (see Isaiah 42:8). Because of the work of Jesus, there is no reason or need to go to God indirectly through other mediators (see 1 Timothy 2:5, 6). Practices such as praying to Mary and the saints are against God’s will and accomplish nothing.

Randomly opening the Bible for insight – Oftentimes, people don’t know where to go in the Bible to get the wisdom or direction they need. So they say, “Lord, show me where you want me to read,” and they randomly open their Bible and start reading wherever the Bible happens to open. This has long been known as the “lucky dip” method. The Lord may give blessings in this way, but we have no promise (or Biblical example) that he will. In general, it is not the best way to read his Word.

People’s Bible – Consider reading the commentary on this section from *The People’s Bible: Luke* in your preparation for teaching this lesson.

