

WHOEVER WE ARE

Aim

To take joy in your identity as sons and daughters of our heavenly Father and explore how who you are connects to where you are and what you do, day by day.

Recall your Sunday theme

Pray to start, then read Matthew 6:5–14, and briefly recall the sermon together, asking what stuck with each person.

Sermon reminder

The sermon reflected on the Lord's prayer – much the same as you will do below. The Lord's Prayer can be so familiar that we skate through it without stopping to think about what we are praying, and even less about what it means for us as God's people caught up in what he's doing in the world. The wonder of the prayer is that it starts with an assurance of our identity. And that makes all the difference in the world.

Explore and discuss further

Go through each part of the Lord's Prayer together. Take 10 minutes on each section, then watch the film and pray together. Don't feel the need to answer every question. Be guided by what you know about your group.

Explore the Lord's Prayer

1 Our Father in heaven

- What does it mean for you that you are a son or daughter of your heavenly Father?
- How easy or difficult is it for you to trust God as your heavenly Father? Why is that?
- Are there times in your life when it's made a great difference to know God as your heavenly Father?

2 Hallowed be your name

- When we become Christians, we can act as though we've enlisted God for our lives, for our concerns and causes. However, when we begin to pray the Lord's Prayer, we're reminded that what's actually happened is that God, through Jesus, has drawn us into his family business. Do you agree with this statement? To what extent? Why?
- In what ways do you think that your life on your frontline matters in God's purposes?
- Can you think of something that happened this week in your life on the frontline that you think delighted God?
- Look at your frontline 'job description' again. What changes would you make if it started 'son of my heavenly Father' or 'daughter of the king of the universe'? How does that change how you reflect on your day? How does that change how you pray?

3 Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven

- Discuss either in pairs or as a group: What could be some of God's kingdom purposes on your frontline? How would you turn this into a prayer?

4 Give us today our daily bread

- What needs do you have on your frontline that keep you dependent on God?
- How easy or difficult is it to depend on God in this way? Why is that?

5 Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors

- Think about your relationships on your frontline. Is there someone to forgive?
- Is there someone to ask forgiveness of?
- Think about your relationship with God. Take a moment in silence to talk to God about anything you regret and repent of. Ask for his forgiveness.

6 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one

- Think about one pressure point and one kingdom purpose on your frontline.
- How are you tempted not to trust your heavenly Father for these things?
- What protection do you need from God in these situations?

Watch the film

Watch *Film 4 – Whoever* (licc.org.uk/frontlinesundays) and discuss what struck each person.

7 Read the whole of the Lord's Prayer with your frontline in mind.

- What is top of mind for you in light of this discussion?

Close in prayer

Finish by praying the Lord's Prayer together. Commit to praying it daily for the next week.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our debts, as also have forgiven our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.