

THE DISCIPLES' PRAYER

Lesson Two

OUR FATHER WHO IS IN THE HEAVENS

Burden to Impart:

As the heavens are high above the earth, so our Father is over all the earth. He sees all things upon the earth and His ear is open to all of His dear children's prayers.

Memory Verse: "Pray, then, like this: Our Father Who is in the heavens..." (Matthew 6:9a).

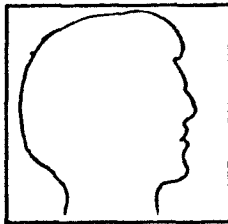
Facts to Teach:

1. This prayer was given to us by the Lord Jesus to guide us and teach us how to pray; it was not given for us to merely repeat.
2. We are first taught about the One to whom we pray: our Father. Because God created us He is the source of our life and existence. In this sense God is the Father of every family in the heavens and on the earth, both angelic and human (Eph. 3:15).
3. More particularly, all those who believe in the Lord Jesus and receive Him are born of God and are the children of God (Jn. 1:12-13).
4. His Name: Father, means so much to us! He is not only our wise and powerful God, the Creator. He is intimately and lovingly related to us. He is our dearly beloved Father!
5. A farmer cares for his crops and a shepherd even more so his sheep. But, who can tell how much concern and love a father has toward his children? A good shepherd knows exactly how many sheep are under his care. If one out of a hundred is missing he will not rest until he finds it and brings it back home (Lk. 15:4-6). So great is our Father's knowledge and concern for us that even the very hairs of our head are all numbered (Matt. 10:30)! We are not merely an object of His creation, or a creature for His possession; we are His very own children, the "apple of His eye."
6. When we pray: "Our Father..." we are reminded that He is not only "my" Father alone. He is also the Father of every other child of God, and they are all my brothers and sisters. Not only I am particularly dear to Him, all of His children are equally dear and precious to Him, and should also be to me when I come before my Father to pray. We are all one divine family.
7. When we pray: "Who is in the heavens..." we are reminded that our Father is transcendent; He is far above all and fills all the heavens. As the entire earth is under the observation of the vast heavens above, so we are under the watchful eye of our Father who is in the heavens. As the earth receives all of its light and life from the heavens, we also depend absolutely upon our Father who is in the heavens so that we may live unto Him as His dear children upon the earth.

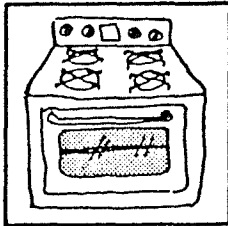


He Loves Us

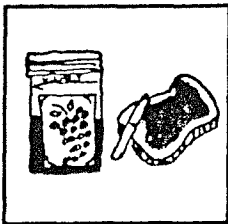
God has given us the opportunity to be related to Him in a very special way to let us know that He loves us more than anyone else does. Solve the puzzle below to find out who God can be to each person.



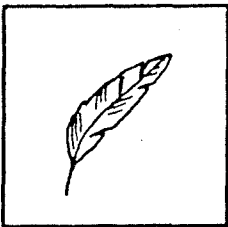
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= _____

God is our _____

_____. (See Luke 11:13.)