

# LESSON 8:

## PRAYER



### AIM:

The aim of this lesson is to introduce the whole subject of prayer as a relationship with God and also to get across the main points that God is interested in every part of our lives the small things and the big things and he wants to talk to us whatever we are doing and whatever we are going through.

### YOU WILL NEED:

- Actual Reality CD
- Computer
- LCD Projector (depending on size of the group)
- Pieces of paper, felt tip pens or paint
- Large sheets of paper
- Small box
- Bibles
- Large Bowl
- Jug
- Ready supply of water
- Food Colouring
- Box of Chocolates

### THE LORD'S PRAYER:

#### INTRO

[This is an interactive lesson using the CD rom and taking your group through the Lord's prayer. The lesson is divided into the four main sections of the Lords prayer. At the end of each section it would be good as a group if you could pray through each bit, be open to go with how the lesson goes and to be led by God as much as possible. You will know your group and how much time you can spend praying through each section.]

### OUR FATHER:

#### SKETCH

[Select one member of the group to sit on a chair in the middle of the room. The rest of the group including the leaders have to walk past the person or just look at him and praise the person. Say how great you think they are, and what qualities they have. Keep doing it for a few moments till you think the individual has been thoroughly built up and doesn't have too big a head.]

### CD:

[Follow these screen clicks to get to 'coming attractions']



### DISCUSS:

Does the group think that God asking his creation to praise him makes God selfish or an egomaniac?

Ask the individual who sat on the chair what they thought about all the praise they got. How did it make them feel?

If it makes us feel good how do you think God feels when his own creation praises him?

## PRAYER:

[Have large sheets of paper and pens available. Encourage the group, to write or draw their prayers of praise and worship to God. Encourage them to think about the good things in their lives and to thank God for them. Explain to the group that to pray you don't have to just say it but you can write, draw, sing, or even dance your prayer to God, we can do it any way we want to.]

## TEMPTATION 1:

### ILLUSTRATION / GAME:

[Place an open box of chocolates in the room at the beginning of the evening. (Milk Tray or a box that you can clearly see when one or two have been taken would be best). Don't mention or draw any attention to the chocolates. At some point make an excuse that you have to leave the room or go to the toilet or something. Prime another leader or member of the group to be the tempter, saying things like, 'who wants a chocolate?' 'They look really nice don't they', 'come on someone try one.' When you re-enter the room again ignore the chocolates till later on when you will again look at this section.]

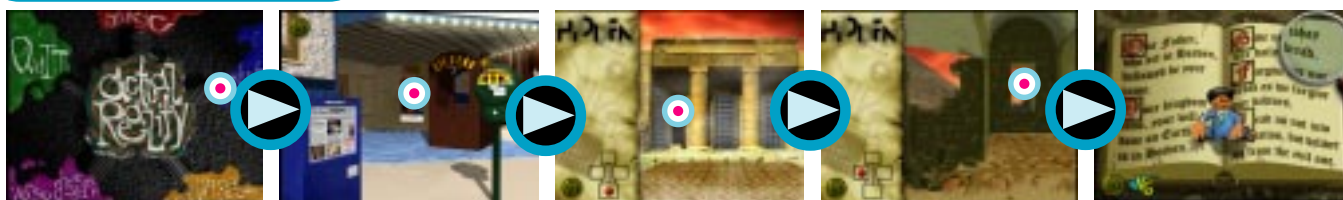
## YOUR KINGDOM COME:

### GAME:

[Select two people at a time. One person writes down on a piece of paper the name of a famous person without showing it to the other person or the rest of the group. The other person then has to find out from the first person what is written on the piece of paper without talking to them or touching them or their chair in anyway. Continue this until everyone has had a go at either guessing or being the person to write down the name.]

## CD:

Follow these screen clicks to get to 'coming attractions']



[Then click on the large 'Y' of your will be done. Listen to what the guy has to say about God's will being done in his life.]

## EXPLANATION:

Explain that in the game we found it very hard to find out what was written on the piece of paper when we couldn't talk to the person. In the same way it is very hard for us to know God's will for our lives without talking to him and asking him what his will for our lives is.

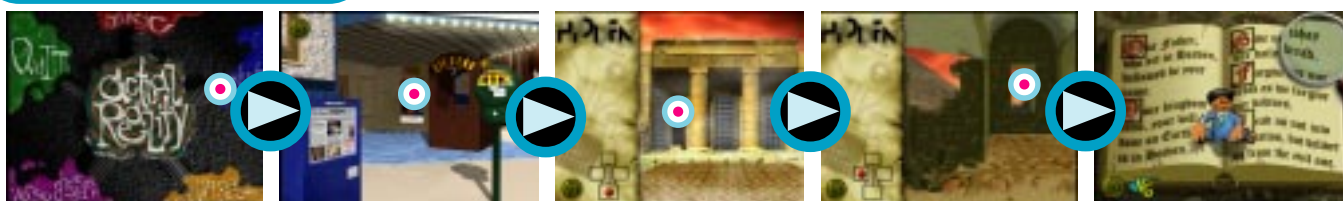
In the same way we need to come before God without our own will or plans so that our lives are free to receive his. When we're holding on to something it's a lot harder to accept something new.

## PRAYER:

[Hand out pens and pieces of paper. Encourage people to write down their plans and wills for their lives. Get them then to fold them up and place them in a box which you'll pass round. Explain that this is surrendering their will to God so that they can receive his. Then pray for God to reveal his will to all of you. Spend some time listening to God and see if he has anything to say to you as individuals and as a group.]

## DAILY BREAD:

CD: [Follow these screen clicks to get to 'coming attractions']



[Then click on the large 'G' of 'Give us our daily bread'. Listen to what the guy has to say about God providing our every need]

## DISCUSS:

Do people feel that God is concerned about our every day needs such as food?  
Has anyone ever prayed, God I need you to feed me today?  
Has anyone ever experienced God providing for their basic every day needs?  
How comfortable would people feel asking God for a house or a car? Do you feel that

God would provide you with one?  
Has anyone ever experienced God providing something like a house or a car for friends or family?

### BIBLE STUDY:

[Read: Exodus 16:1-18 Divide the passage up a few verses per person].

- God provided in an amazing way for the Israelites. He had done loads of major miracles by releasing them from slavery and then provided for their dietary requirements by literally dropping food right out of the sky.
- Has anyone seen God provide for them in such an amazing way?

### PRAYER:

[Encourage the group to be really specific about the things they need, that either themselves or their friends or family are missing at the moment. Encourage them to take it to God how ever small or trivial it may seem to them.]

### FORGIVENESS:

CD:

[Follow these screen clicks to get to 'coming attractions']



[Then click on the large 'F' for Forgiveness.]

### ILLUSTRATION:

[Take a bowl and a jug half filled with water. Place the jug in side the bowl. Then drop a couple of drops of food colouring into the water. Explain that the water represents our lives, pure and clear. When we sin or do things wrong that God doesn't like we colour ourselves or make ourselves dirty.

Now start to pour more and more water into the jug. The jug will fill up and start pouring over into the bowl. Keep on pouring more and more water in till the water is clear again. WARNING: If the bowl ever looks like it is going to overflow then it will be best to throw the water in the bowl away and then put the jug back and carry on.

*Explain that when we ask for forgiveness God pours his forgiveness into our lives till we are pure again. It doesn't matter how filthy our lives are with sin, God will totally make us clean every time. There is simply nothing that God can't forgive.]*

### PRAYER:

[Encourage people to spend some time on their own, quietly confessing sins to God. Encourage the group if you feel it's appropriate to go to ask other people for forgiveness if they need to. Remind the group that if they get asked to forgive someone then they need to do this, for Jesus said in Matthew 6:15 that if we don't forgive each other then God won't forgive us. You could also have the jug and the bowl available if people symbolically want to pray their forgiveness in using the water.]

### TEMPTATION 2:

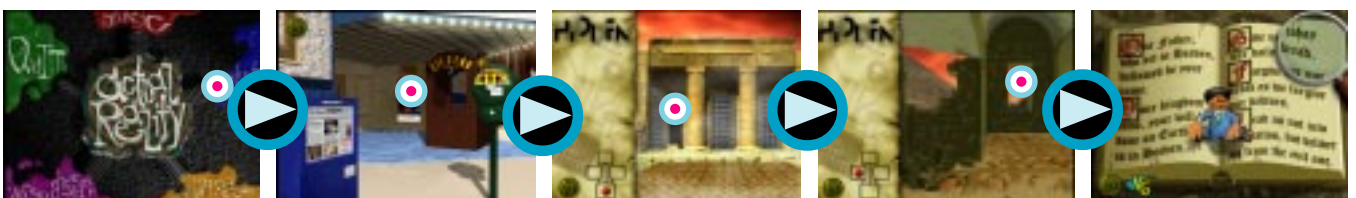
#### ILLUSTRATION / GAME

[Now return to the box of chocolates.]

Ask the question who ate some of my chocolates?  
Who gave in to temptation?

### CD:

[Follow these screen clicks to get to 'coming attractions']



[Then click on the large 'L' for lead us not into temptation.]

## DISCUSS:

What kinds of things do people feel really tempted to do that they know they shouldn't?  
How easy is it to withstand that temptation?  
How do people overcome temptation?  
What did the guy in the CD mean by having victory over temptation?  
How has that victory been made possible?

## PRAYER:

[Encourage the group to pair up and to pray for each other. To help them stand up against temptation, for special help in any temptations they are facing at the moment and to live in the victory over temptation that Christ won for us on the cross.]

## CONCLUSION:

**God wants us to communicate with him. He wants us to talk about everything whether big or small. He has all the solutions that we need for everything we bring to him. Let's keep talking to him about everything that is happening in our lives and let's watch him change us for the better.**