



# SPORTS IN FOCUS

*The Lord's Prayer*  
Luke 11:1-4 • Lesson Six

# ZOOM!

## READY

- What five words would you use to describe your prayer life?
- Do you have a special time and place set aside for conversing with God—a daily appointment with Him?

## SET

### Context of Luke 11:1-13:35

Having concluded His Galilean ministry, the Son of Man's destination is now Jerusalem, where he will die for the sins of the world. Here is a record of Jesus' brief ministry in Bethany and Judea. Chapter 11 begins with Christ's teaching prayer, then moves into a warning about the impossibility of spiritual neutrality.

### Keys to Text

*The Lord's Prayer.* The Lord's Prayer is recited word for word, week after week, in many churches. However, that was not the Lord's intent in teaching it. We read of no one in the New Testament ever offering this prayer. Also, Luke records a slightly different version of it—which would be a problem if we were always to use these exact words. Rather than words to recite over and over, it seems to be a suggested pattern showing the kind of things that ought to be included.

## GO

### Read Luke 11:1-4

Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." And he said to them, "When you pray, say: "Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And plead us not into temptation."

1. What stood out to you in these verses? What is the proper motivation for praying?
2. Sin in our lives makes praying and communicating with God difficult. Paul Miller says, "Money can do what prayer does, and it is quicker and less time-consuming. Our trust in ourselves and in our talents makes us structurally independent of God." Discuss this statement. How is your prayer life impacted by dependence upon God?

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Wake Forest University baseball coach Tom Walter, took one for the team when he donated his kidney to freshman outfielder Kevin Jordan. "I feel I was meant to be here with Kevin," said 42-year-old Walter, whose players call him "Walt." "I don't consider myself a hero. It's just doing the right thing." After Jordan's mother and brother were not found to be good donor matches, Walter was tested. Walter learned he was a match in late January of this year. When he told his team a week ago that he'd be donating his kidney, the players gave him a round of applause. It's not surprising that "Walt" would receive a round of applause from his team for his sacrificial donation of his kidney. For Kevin Jordan to live, it meant someone had to make a sacrifice on his behalf. Likewise, our sin makes Jesus' sacrifice necessary on our behalf so we won't face God's wrath. Jesus Christ is the only one who can bridge the gap between God and man. Jesus was the perfect match. As humans, we have no possible way to atone for our sin or way to free ourselves from enslavement to it. Jesus, being fully human, yet not sinning, was the perfect and only substitute available.