



**SAMPLE
LESSON**



God Listens

Hold the stuffed lion and Say: Raise your hand if you have ever visited a zoo? What was your favorite animal to visit? In zoos, animals come from all over the world. Many animals, like tigers and lions, come from Africa. What do you know about lions? Lions are *really* BIG CATS! A Lion is called the *King of the Jungle*. Why is he called a king? Lions are big, strong and full of courage. A male lion can weigh 500 pounds. Lions roar so loud that you can hear them from five miles away. If you screamed at the top of your lungs, would someone hear YOU from five miles away? God created lions and He can hear their mighty roars. Let's pretend we are lions prowling in an African jungle. On the count of three, let's ROAR! ONE, TWO, THREE... ROAR! Did God hear us? Yes, God hears everything!

God created the lions and every animal in the whole world. Of all the things God created, YOU are the *most* important! God is Father to everyone in the world. He is the Father of people who live across the street from you and people who live in far-away Africa. Even Eskimos living in igloos are God's children. God is *King of Earth* and *King of Heaven*. No matter where you live, God is *your* Father and you are *His* child.

Of all the sounds God hears on earth, *your* voice is the *most* important. When you pray, you talk to God. You can talk to God anytime, day or night. Would God ever say, "Hello, may I ask who's calling" NO! God knows who you are. Would God say, "Call me back later. I had a late night and need to sleep in"? NO! God NEVER sleeps! Would God say, "I'm busy talking to someone else. Call me tomorrow"? No! Would God say, "This is God, I'm not home, and please leave a message at the

beep?" NO! God doesn't have an answering machine, missed calls or a voice mailbox. His line is open twenty-four hours a day. You won't get a phone bill in the mail. Talking to God is FREE OF CHARGE!

Display the Our Father Poster. Hold the Bible and Say:

The Bible is the *most* important book in the whole world. In the Bible, Jesus taught his apostles to say the *Our Father* prayer. Jesus wants us to say this prayer too. (*Ask the children to repeat the first line together.*) When you pray "who art in heaven" what do you think about? You know and believe another home is waiting for you. Your FOREVER home *is* heaven. This is Jesus' promise. Jesus himself was lifted into heaven. In heaven, you will see Jesus face to face.

Why do we pray, "hallowed be thy name"? Hallowed means *holy*. When we say "hallowed", we tell God that we know He is a God of love, goodness, and truth. The word *God* is to be honored, praised, and respected above all other words. God's name should *always* be spoken in love, and *never* in anger. You keep God's name holy by the way you act and the things you say. God is holy and because we are made in His likeness, He calls us to be holy too.



ACTIVITY



Our Father Parade

Materials: Music CD, Toy stuffed lion, Toy drum, Tambourine, Rhythm sticks, Cymbal, Maraca, Baton, Balloons, Flags

Say: Raise your hand if you have ever been to a parade. Why do people plan parades? People *celebrate* special days or holidays, like Thanksgiving or the Fourth of July, with parades. Today we are going to celebrate God, our Father, by marching in an *Our Father's Day* Parade.

Directions: Pass out one musical instrument, balloons and flags so each child has something to hold. Choose a parade leader to hold the lion. Play *The Our Father* on the Music CD as children parade around the classroom. Choose a new leader, trade instruments, and PARADE again!