



# Hiker



## LARGE GROUP

Knowing God's Love



# NAVIGATOR



Leader Planbook



## UNIT 1 MEETING 4

### God's Love Through the Bible



#### Bible Study Aims

Club members will:

- know how willing God is to give us good things.
- sense God wants to hear from them.
- pray for a request they have.

#### Scripture

Luke 18:1-7

#### Prayer of Preparation

Lord, I know You are a God who listens to prayer. Teach me to pray, even as I am in the midst of teaching Your children. Amen.

#### Supplies Needed

- ☐ Bibles
- ☐ Pencils
- ☐ Snack for each kid
- ☐ *Option:* Judge's wig, robe, gavel or special chair

#### Plan Ahead

- Gather supplies.
- Check to make sure the snack is okay for any kids who might have food allergies.

## I Learn to Pray

#### OPENING 5-10 MINUTES

**Welcome!** Make announcements.

#### Sing

Sing songs about prayer or praising God.

#### Review

**Let's show we know the books of the Bible!** Have club members stand where they are or come up front, by age-groups, to recite or sing the books of the Old and New Testaments. Praise each group for what they've learned.

#### Pray

**Lord, thank You for giving us time to learn about You. Thank You that You care about us and want to hear from us. Thank You for hearing us as we pray. Help us want to spend time with You. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

#### BIBLE EXPLORATION 10-15 MINUTES

##### Introduction

**Let's play a game to help us think of some things we're thankful for. I'll draw something God has given us.** Before you start, set rules about how to answer, based on the size and abilities of your group. Should club members raise hands and wait to be pointed at or just call out answers?

Draw on a board, easel pad or projection system. *Ideas:* food, Bible, toy, home, parent, cross. Let the audience guess what you are drawing. *Option:* Have volunteers come up to take a turn.

**God is happy to give us these good things—and much more! Our story today will show us that God wants us to talk to Him about our needs and to ask Him about things that are important to us.**

##### Scripture

**You have learned that God speaks to us through the Bible.**

- **Who knows how we speak to God? Call out your answer.** (Prayer.)

**The Bible tells us that God loves to hear us pray. Our story today, a story Jesus told His followers to teach them to keep praying, is in Luke 18.**

- **Is Luke in the Old or New Testament? Call out your answer.** (New.)

Read Luke 18:1-7.

**So, over and over the woman came to the mean judge. "Judge, listen to me!" she said, again and again.**

- **Did the judge care about her?** (No.)

**That's right, he did not really care. But he did get tired of listening to her complain—so tired that he helped her, just to get her to go away.**

**Let's see what might happen if we had a similar judge here at Pioneer Clubs today.** Ask for an older volunteer to be the judge. *Option:* Have props for the judge, like a wig, robe, gavel or special chair. **The woman in the story wanted fairness for something she really cared about. To make sure the people going before our judge are pleading for something they really care about, our judge will decide who gets to have snack today and who doesn't!**

Quietly instruct the judge to refuse to allow snacks several times, but then to let each person have permission after he or she has asked repeatedly. Let the judge have fun with the part! Be sure to check for any food allergies before passing out the snack.

Ask for volunteers to come up and ask the judge if they can have snack today. Remind each of them: You must keep on asking the judge, no matter what happens. After the role play, say:

- **Raise your hand if you've ever felt like one of the volunteers or like the woman in the Bible story, asking for something over and over again.**
- **Tell someone sitting next to you what you were asking for.**
- **Is God like the mean judge, who only wants us to go away and leave Him alone? (No.)**

God used the mean judge as a bad example, saying that *even* a mean judge would give in to someone who keeps asking. God is our good example! God *wants* to talk to us and hear what we have to say. God *wants* to give us good things.

## Application

Jesus wanted this story to teach us something about praying.

- **Put your hands on your head if you think God never wants us to pray to Him.**
- **Put your hands in the air if you think God wants you to pray every once in a while.**
- **Stand up if you think God wants to hear from you all the time.**

God is very different from the mean judge. God is good and loves us! Because God loves us, God wants us to ask for what we need. God wants to help us, so we should come to God for everything.

Let's do a cheer.

Give me a P! (P!)

Give me an R! (R!)

Give me an A! (A!)

Give me a Y! (Y!)

- **What does it spell? (Pray!)**
- **When you need something, what should you do? (Pray!)**
- **When you don't get what you want, what should you do? (Pray!)**
- **When you're thankful for something, what should you do? (Pray!)**
- **When you're sorry or sad about something, what should you do? (Pray!)**
- **When you think God is great, what should you do? (Pray!)**

By reading the Bible and praying, we can talk with God and understand what God wants for our lives. God always knows best and we can trust Him to answer our prayers in the very best way.

## CLOSING PRAYER

**We can put today's lesson to work right away! Say this prayer after me: Lord, thank You / for speaking to me / in the Bible. / Please teach me / to pray and talk to You. / I want to know You more. / Amen.**

## DISMISS TO SMALL GROUPS