

# Prayer & Scripture Memorization

For Bible reading, we will make suggestions for your morning time reading. However, if you'd prefer a more in depth schedule, we recommend checking out various plans that will help you read the Bible through.

For a one-year plan, we recommend YouVersion's One Year Bible: <https://www.bible.com/reading-plans/60>. You can also listen to it being read aloud on the app.

Download a two-year reading plan from the Gospel Coalition here: <https://media.thegospelcoalition.org/static-blogs/tgc/files/2010/12/TGC-Two-Year-Bible-Reading-Plan1.pdf>

If you prefer to go even slower, Ambleside Online offers three, four, and five-year Bible reading plans: <https://www.amblesideonline.org/L/Lbiblesch.htm>

This session, we will learn **The Lord's Prayer** and focus on writing and memorizing **Proverbs 4:7** and **James 3:17**. We have also included additional copywork comparing and contrasting scriptures with quotes from the famous ancient Chinese philosopher, Confucius.

## **The Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13)**

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

## **Proverbs 4:7**

Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.

## **James 3:17**

But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

# Confucius: A Note for Christian Families

Confucius (551–479 BC) was a Chinese teacher and philosopher whose ideas shaped Chinese culture, education, and government for more than two thousand years. Learning about Confucius helps students understand the values that influenced much of East Asian history, including ideas about family honor, respect for elders, education, and moral responsibility in society.

Many of Confucius' teachings emphasize virtues such as kindness, self-discipline, humility, respect for parents, and treating others well—principles that Christians may recognize as consistent with biblical wisdom.

However, Confucianism is not a Christian worldview. It does not acknowledge the one true God revealed in Scripture, nor does it teach salvation through Jesus Christ. Instead, it focuses on moral self-cultivation and social harmony as the path to a good life. Confucian traditions have also historically included reverence for ancestors and ritual practices that directly conflict with biblical teaching about worship and devotion.

For this reason, Christian families can approach the study of Confucius as an opportunity to understand an influential historical thinker while also exercising discernment. As with any worldview study, parents are encouraged to discuss how Confucius' ideas compare with the truth of God's Word and to help students recognize both the wisdom that reflects God's Word and the beliefs that differ from biblical teaching.

Here is a helpful mental model: studying Confucius is similar to studying the Greek philosophers. People read Aristotle or Socrates not because they are prophets, but because they shaped entire civilizations. Confucius did the same for China.

Confucianism is less like a religion and more like a moral philosophy about how societies should function—almost a code of civic virtue. In that sense, it influenced Chinese culture somewhat like the way classical philosophy influenced Western civilization.

For this session's copywork, we have included 12 sayings of Confucius alongside scriptures from the Bible. Some sound strikingly similar on the surface, yet they come from entirely different foundations—human wisdom versus revelation from God. That contrast makes for a rich discussion about the nature of truth, morality, and the source of wisdom.

Some ideas for you:

1. Talk about where these sayings and scriptures overlap (wisdom, self-control, humility, friendships, moral living, etc.)
2. Talk about where they differ:
  - Confucius: morality rooted in human effort, harmony, and social order
  - Bible: wisdom rooted in the fear of the Lord and relationship with God

The *source* of wisdom is different. Where does **true wisdom** come from?