



Breakfast with Dad!

By Deborah Wassenberg

Introduction:

This lesson is designed to celebrate dads, father-figures, and most importantly, the goodness of our Heavenly Father. We can come to God boldly because He is a good Father who loves to give good gifts. The lesson works beautifully for Father's Day but can also be used anytime you want to highlight God's generous heart.

Bible Lesson: Jesus' Instruction about Prayer

Bible Reference: Luke 11:5-13

Skit: Breakfast with Dad

Scene: Kitchen with a small table and chairs
Fake fridge (cardboard box) or a place for props to sit out of view of the audience

Characters: Father
Son

Props: Plate with a rubber snake
Plate with a plastic scorpion (stuck on top of an eggcup if you can manage it!)

Dad is singing to himself in the kitchen, notices the time and calls his son.

Dad: *(calling offstage)*
Son!
You're going to be late.
Better get in here for breakfast.

Son: *(calling back from offstage)*
Coming Dad!

The son hurries in and sits down to eat.

Son: Thanks, Dad!
I'm so hungry.

Dad: Good!

Son: What's for breakfast?

Dad: Well, let's see...
What do you feel like?

Son: *(Thinking)*
Hmmm
I know!
How about fish?
I think there are leftovers from the fish we cooked last night after our fishing trip.

Dad: Say no more, son.

Dad picks up the plate holding the snake and plops it down in front of his son.

Son: *(Yells and jumps back, knocking his chair over)*
Argh!
Dad!
That's not fish.
That's a snake!

Dad: I know, I know.
You asked for fish, but I gave you a snake instead.
I think Omega-3s are overrated.
You get some of that snake venom into you, and you'll be set for the day.

Son: Dad, I don't want snake for breakfast, or anytime, really.
I don't see how it can be healthy for me.
Besides, it's not what I asked for.

Dad: Oh.

Dad removes the plate of snake as Son rights his chair and sits back down at the table.

Dad: Well, you still need to eat before you go.
What else do you fancy?

Son: I'm almost afraid to ask.
How about an egg?
That's not too much trouble, is it, Dad?
Yep, I'll have an egg, please.

Dad: Sure thing, Son.

Dad picks up the plate with a scorpion perched on an egg cup and plops it down in front of his son.

Son: *(Yells and jumps back, knocking his chair over again)*
Argh!
Dad!
That's not an egg!
It's a scorpion!

Dad: I know, I know.
You asked for an egg and I gave you a scorpion instead.
What's the difference?
Hard shell on the outside and soft and squishy on the inside.
Get it in ya, Son!

Son: Sorry Dad,
I'm not hungry anymore!
(Runs offstage)

Visuals You Will Need:

1. Breakfast foods
2. Jesus and the Scripture
3. Beautifully wrapped gift boxes
4. The friend at midnight asking for bread
5. Child praying + examples of 'ask', 'seek', 'knock'

Words:

1. I'm sure your favourite breakfast isn't scrambled snake or scorpion on toast!
What do you like to eat for breakfast?
(Discuss)
Yes, that sounds much more appetizing!
(If you're using this lesson for Father's Day, ask the children if they made breakfast for their Dad, and what it was.)
The skit you just watched is based on a story Jesus told when He was teaching people how to pray.
2. (Read from your Bible: Luke 11:11-12)
Jesus was talking about good Fathers.
Fathers who love their kids.
Fathers want to give their kids good things.
Not things that will scare them.
And certainly not things that will harm them.
Earthly Fathers are only human, and they make mistakes.
3. God is your Heavenly Father.
He is the perfect gift-giver.
(Read from your Bible: Luke 11:13)
Father God gives His kids the best gifts, ever!
Great gifts like His presence, His help, and His Holy Spirit.
4. Jesus used another story as well.
(Read from your Bible: Luke 11:5-8)
Back in those days, a whole family lived together in a one-room house.
On one side of the house was a raised platform where they all slept.
Down on the ground were all their animals.
A cow, perhaps some sheep and goats.
So there was no way a man could come to the door without disturbing the whole household!
Jesus is not saying God is grumpy or annoyed.
He's explaining that if a grumpy, sleepy friend will get up and give you what you ask for because you won't give up pestering him, how much more God will answer you because He never sleeps and He loves you best.

5. Just like that friend who wouldn't give up until he got some bread for his visitors, God wants you to be persistent, too.
He wants you to pray to Him no matter how difficult it may be.
He wants you to pray to Him no matter what the opposition may be.

6. *(Read from your Bible: Luke 11:9-10)*
Ask and you will receive.
Seek and you will find.
Knock and the door will be opened.
God wants you to come to Him boldly.
With confidence and with courage.
Like a kid who *knows* their Father loves them!

Ministry to the Children:

God wants YOU to be His child. He wants to be your Father—not just far away in heaven, but close to you, every day. The Bible tells us that we can't become God's children by trying to be good enough. We all do wrong things—things the Bible calls sin. Sin separates us from God. But God loved us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to fix that problem. Jesus is the only One who never sinned. He is the only One who could take our sin away. He is the only One who can bring us into God's family. When we believe in Jesus, trust Him, and ask Him to forgive us, God becomes our Father and we become His children. So today, if you're thinking: *I want God to be my Father. I want to belong to Him. I want Jesus to forgive me and live in my heart.* Then you can talk to God right now. I'm going to pray a simple prayer. If you want to give your life to Jesus and become part of God's family, you can pray it quietly in your heart or out loud.

Prayer

"Father God,
Thank You that You love me.
Thank You for sending Jesus.
I know I have done wrong things (sinned).
Please forgive me.
Jesus, I believe You died for me and rose again.
Come into my heart.
Be my Saviour and my Lord.
Father, make me Your child today.
Thank You for becoming my Heavenly Father.
Amen."

If you prayed that prayer today, that is the best gift you will ever receive. God is now your Father, and you are His child. Please come and tell a leader so we can celebrate with you and help you grow in your new friendship with Jesus.

Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 6:18 CEV

And I will welcome you and be your Father. You will be my sons and my daughters, as surely as I am God, the all-powerful.

You will need:

- Cereal boxes filled with cereal (shredded or cut up paper) inside
- Word/s of the Memory Verse to fit inside the cereal boxes
- Paper or plastic bowls

What to do:

- Hide a word, or multiple words of the Memory Verse, inside the boxes of 'cereal'.
- Hide the cereal boxes around the room for the children to find.
- Children then take the found cereal box to the kitchen table used in the skit and empty out the cereal into the bowls to find the word/words inside.
- When all the words have been found, the children assemble the verse in the correct order and recite it aloud together.

Game: Backyard BBQ Breakfast Relay

If your Church is running a Father's Day event, I'm sure the Dad's would like to give this relay a try!

Items each team may need:

- Apron
- Chef's hat
- BBQ tongs
- Fake T-bone Steak (purchased from a pet toy supplier)
- Paper plate targets (use a Sharpie to write the number of points on each plate and attach the targets to walls, fences or equipment)
- Fake Sausages (purchased from a pet toy supplier)

Ideas to set up the relay course:

- Use cones, tape or chalk to mark out the relay course for the teams to follow
- At the start, place the apron to be worn
- Further on, add the chef's hat
- Further on, pick up the tongs
- Further on, use the tongs to pick up the T-Bone and carry it
- Further on, put the tongs and T-Bone down and pick up the sausages
- Throw the sausages at the targets to collect points

Craft: Father's Day BBQ Card!

You will need:

- Scissors
- Felt pens
- Glue
- Paper plates
- Circle of white paper to fit inside the paper plate
- Orange and red cardboard for handprint flames
- Silver cardboard for the legs of the BBQ
- Spatula photocopied onto white cardboard

What to do:

- Children trace around their hands onto the orange and red cardboard
- Cut out the handprints (they become the flames on the BBQ)
- Glue the circle of white paper inside the paper plate
- Fold the paper plate in half (this becomes the BBQ with a lid to lift)
- Glue the hands onto the back of the paper plate's top half, the BBQ lid
- Glue silver cardboard legs to the paper plate that is the bottom of the BBQ
- Cut out the spatula and glue it to the lid of the BBQ
- Write a message on the white circle of paper that is glued inside the paper plate, so the BBQ has become a card!

You'll find images of this craft online.

