

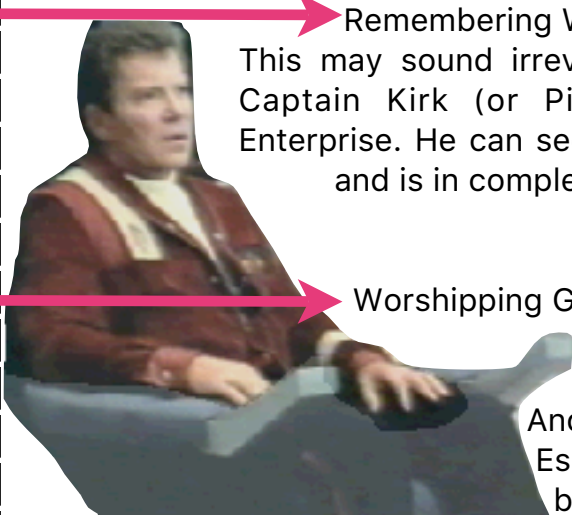
Talking with Jesus

We've seen how reliable the Bible is, we've examined the evidence that Jesus *is* alive. Now its time to start talking with Him.

Oh
no, not
praying!

Yes, but
note that I said talking *with* Him, not
to Him. Just talking to someone gets
boring, but sharing in a conversation with
someone can be exciting....especially if
the Someone is God!

Jesus told us Himself how to pray:

Our Father in heaven		<p>Remembering Who God is. This may sound irreverent but I like to visualise Captain Kirk (or Picard) in his seat on the Enterprise. He can see everything that's going on, and is in complete control.</p>
hallowed be your name		<p>Worshipping God is actually what we're here for! (See Ecclesiastes 12:13,14). And it is often great fun too. Especially with other people, but even on your own!</p>
your kingdom come your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.		<p>We need to pray 'according to God's will'. That means praying that all people come into His Kingdom, and that life on earth is lived according to His commands. (See the Ecclesiastes verses above again)</p>
Give us today our daily bread.		<p>Now we come to pray for our needs. Note we don't start with this! First we gain the perspective of God in control and worthy of praise, and praying for the things <i>He</i> wants. (Why do we need to pray for what <i>He</i> wants? Find out on the next sheet!)</p>
Forgive us our debts as we also forgive our debtors.		<p>And we need to remember to ask for forgiveness. "Debts" because we owe Him so much, and all our sins just add to the bill. Also we need at this time to forgive those we're annoyed with. Notice we ask Him to forgive us in the same way that we forgive them! Its best to forgive them quickly!</p>

JESUS and ME

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one.

→ We pray for protection, especially for help against sinning again.

For yours is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory for ever.

→ Just as we began, so we finish off with praise and worship. Stick that praise tape on!

Amen.

→ That means we agree with what we've prayed. Its like signing your name at the bottom of a letter. You don't need to say 'Amen', its not a magic formula, but its good to find some way of ending the time which reminds you of what you've prayed and that God is faithful.

You can find this prayer in the Bible at Matthew 6: 9 - 13

But *WHY* do we have to pray for God's will, why can't I just pray for what I want?

"Lord, You are in Heaven. You see all that is happening. You have a plan that is the best for the world, for the human race, for the people I love and for me. I trust You. Your will be done"

Think about it for just a few seconds....

Please let Arsenal win the Cup

Please let Man U win the Cup

Please let Newcastle win the Cup

For more on the Lord's Prayer get the eBook "Knees Worn Through" from www.lumin.org.uk