

Translating The Lord's Prayer

Star Search Troupe A

by
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The Reel Boys Podcast Network

CHARACTER NAME	BRIEF DESCRIPTION
One	Leader
Two	Confrontational
Three	Eager to please
Four	Insecure about others opinions

If you have a larger group, feel free to reassign lines to accommodate. Have fun bringing the staging to life.

The actors stand in a straight line. This is the opening position.

ONE

The prayer of Jesus.

TWO

Or, the Lord's prayer.

THREE

From the Gospel of Matthew.

FOUR

Chapter 6. Verses 7-13. From the King James Version.

The actors move into a new position. Everyone sits in a semi-circle around One, who begins to "teach."

ONE

But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.

The actors take a confused pause.

TWO

(Standing up) Really?

ONE

What's wrong?

THREE

(Standing up slowly) What's wrong is that no one understands what that means.

ONE

Yeah, but this is Star Search. We're supposed to utilize elevated dialogue.

FOUR

(Standing quickly) But see, no one knows what that means. Including the judges.

Everyone looks out towards the audience.

ONE

Alright, let's start again!

They resume their opening position.

TWO

The prayer of Jesus.

THREE

Or, the Lord's prayer.

FOUR

From the Gospel of Matthew.

ONE

Chapter 6. Verses 7-13. From The Message

The actors move into a new position. Two and Three stand while One and Four sit on either side.

TWO

The world is full of so-called prayer warriors who are prayer-ignorant. They're full of formulas and programs and advice, peddling techniques for getting what you want from God. Don't fall for that nonsense. (Slapping three a high five)

THREE

This is your Father you are dealing with, and he knows better than you what you need. With a God like this loving you, you can pray very simply.

ONE

Now I have a problem. (*Standing up*)

FOUR

And what is that?

ONE

Does that sound like Jesus? Is that how he talked?

THREE

Oh! You want us to do it in Aramaic?

FOUR

Wow! (*Stands up*) That would really impress the judges!

TWO

Yes! That would be a guaranteed win! Major will be so proud!

ONE

No! I'm asking if we can split the difference between the two translations. Maybe we can use something a little more..classy?

THREE

Oh I know! We can use my mom's favorite translation!

FOUR

I hope your mom is a judge then. Aramaic would have sealed the deal.

ONE

Let's just start again please?

They resume their opening position.

THREE

The prayer of Jesus.

FOUR

Or, the Lord's prayer.

ONE

From the Gospel of Matthew.

TWO

Chapter 6. Verses 7-13. From the New International Version.

Moving into a new position. This time they all stand with their attention on Three.

THREE

When you pray, don't babble on and on as the Gentiles do.

TWO

Whoa!!!! The Gentiles? Who are they? Are they gonna get offended?

ONE

Guys. Stop messing around, I am so serious right now. Please keep going.

FOUR

Fine. (*Resuming*) They think their prayers are answered merely by repeating their words again and again.

TWO

Don't be like them, for your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him! Pray like this:

They assume a new position.

ONE

Our Father in Heaven, may your name be kept holy.

FOUR

Ok, see. Now that sounded wrong to me.

TWO

Now, I'm starting to get annoyed. We can't keep starting and stopping.

FOUR

Look, I have to be able to believe what I'm saying, the judges deduct points if you don't, and I'm saying that for me this version does not work.

THREE

Oh! I know! We all have our lines, why don't we mix and match!

TWO

Mix and match.

THREE

Yeah, yeah! You pick the translation you like the most, and you can use that!

ONE

That is kind of edgy.

TWO

And Star Search is all about being edgy.

FOUR

The judges love edgy. Let's do it!

They resume their opening position.

THREE

The prayer of Jesus.

FOUR

Or, the Lord's prayer.

ONE

From the Gospel of Matthew.

TWO

Chapter 6. Verses 7-13. From...the Bible.

They assume new positions, but this time, they each take a random corner of the stage. Very disjointed.

TWO

Don't recite the same prayer over and over as the heathen do, who think prayers are answered only by repeating them again and again.

THREE

Do not be like them, for your Father knows what things you have need of before you ask Him.

ONE

After this manner therefore pray ye,

They move into a new position. A straight line from upstage to downstage. FOUR should be the closest downstage.

FOUR

Our father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. (*Steps to SR*)

THREE

May Your holy nation come. What You want done, may it be done on earth as it is in heaven. (*Steps to SL*)

ONE

Give us to-day our needed bread. (*Takes Up Stage Center*)

TWO

Forgive us the wrongs we have done as we ourselves release forgiveness to those who have wronged us. (*Moves Down Stage Center*)

They have formed a cross.

FOUR

And do not bring us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

They pause.

TWO

Who has the next line?

THREE

Is it me? Sorry I got lost in translation.

ONE

No. That's the end.

FOUR

Wait. Isn't there something about the kingdom and the glory forever?

TWO pulls out a phone. The actors break formation.

TWO

Actually, yeah. In Matthew, the next verse is "For if you forgive others their offenses, your heavenly Father will forgive you as well. But if you don't forgive others, your Father will not forgive your offenses."

FOUR

What about Luke?

TWO scrolls through phone. THREE pulls out a phone.

TWO

Not there either.

THREE

According to Google," The translators of the 1611 King James Bible assumed that a Greek manuscript they possessed was ancient and therefore adopted the phrase "For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever" into the Lord's Prayer of Matthew's Gospel."

TWO

Wow.

They ponder in silence for a second.

THREE

Hey, this was pretty fun.

ONE

What was?

THREE

Hearing all of these different translations, cross referencing them, doing research. We should do more of these!

TWO

More scripture presentations?

ONE

Yeah! The bible has so many awesome stories!

TWO

But there's so many books in the bible.

THREE

Yeah! What book should we start with?

FOUR

Judges?

