

Alley Rundown—May 15th-17th, 2021

Today's Bible Story: Livin' on a Prayer (Model Prayer) • Luke 11:1-4

Today's Key Question: How do you pray to God?

Today's Bottom Line: Practice praying to God.

Monthly Memory Verse: *For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.* 1 Timothy 4:8, NIV

CG: Dude Perfect Filler Videos

Connection Time: “Messed Up” Game

Begin this Activity: 5-10 Minutes before your Start Time

Supplies Needed: Messed Up Signs Stack (2 Stacks per Campus)

“Woo! Yeah! It’s great to get moving, get things loosened up, but it’s also important to get your brains doing the same kinds of things—mental gymnastics, if you will. I know a lot of times you all walk in here like you’re still half asleep and it takes fifteen minutes before you start to wake up! Today, however, let’s engage those brains right from the start.

“And since it’s The Alley, we’ll do it with a competition. Who’s with me? (Pause for responses.) Awesome! This game is appropriately called ‘Messed Up!’”

Slide: “Messed Up!”

Hold the stack of signs.

“We’ll need two teams for this competition. I’d like the teams to stand in a circle, facing each other. Then I’ll hand out these signs (*Hold up the stack of signs*), and I want you to hold them close, face down, so no one can see what’s on them. When I say ‘Go,’ flip them over so everyone in your circle can see them.”

“These signs, when put in the correct order, spell out a word, a phrase, a Bible verse, or a famous saying. It’s up to you as a group to 1) decide what the plan is, then 2) line them up in the right order! First team to do so is the winner! Get it? Got it? Good! Let’s get in circles and hand out the signs!”

Once finished, thank all the volunteers with thunderous applause.

“Fantastic! Now hopefully your brains are turned on! Let’s keep that going. Let’s get started with our talk today!”

“Attention all you amazing 5th Graders! This announcement is for you. Going on right now is an awesome opportunity for you to get a chance to check out JHM. It’s called Level Up! Take a look at this video!”

CG: Level Up! Promo Video

SUPPLIES NEEDED: Superhero Cards

CG: Superhero Images FRONT and BACK

(Read the Cards BACK and let the Kids know that they will be getting their Superhero Cards today)

“Welcome, welcome, welcome to The Alley! You know, I really appreciate the opportunity I get every week to hang out with you all, and this week we’re digging into something that could potentially strike fear in the hearts of every person in here—and that’s praying to God, the King and Creator of the Universe.

“You might think, ‘What if I say the wrong thing?’ or ‘What if I don’t sound Christian enough?’ We might wonder the sorts of things we should pray for. We might even wonder how God even hears our prayers. Thankfully we’ve got this (*hold up the Bible*) to help guide us a bit. Let’s take a look at something Jesus taught us about prayer. We find it in Luke 11:1-4.”

Open the Bible to Luke 11:1-4 (NIV) and read.

“*One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples spoke to him. “Lord,” he said, “teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.”*

He said to them, “When you pray, say:

“*‘Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation. ’*”

“You might already know this one—maybe you learned some different words to it, right? ‘*Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done*’ (Luke 11:2, KJV) or something like that—it’s also known as the Our Father or The Lord’s Prayer.”

“This is more than just ‘what to say’ when you don’t know ‘what to say.’ It’s an outline of sorts, a guide, given by Jesus to us to help us figure out how to pray. Let’s break it down into bite-sized pieces with the help of this week’s episode. Take a look!”

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 15:00)

“So, in essence, your prayer might sound something like this:”

“God, You are awesome. You are so amazing, and You’ve done amazing things in my life.”

“I pray that what moves Your heart, moves mine. Help me see things the way You see them. I know it’s Your desire that everyone should know You, so I pray for my friend. He’s not making the best choices right now, and I pray that he hears Your voice and feels Your Holy Spirit leading him back on the right path.”

“God, I have a Zoom call with my class and a spelling test today. Can You help me remember what I’ve studied? And can You help me understand what the teacher is teaching in math

today? Lately, I've had a hard time understanding what he's teaching."

"And God, I know I do things that are wrong, like all the time. Forgive me for my actions, and help me become a better person to You and to others. Give me opportunities to be kind to others. Help me treat others with patience, and help me see their intentions, not their actions."

"And because Jesus died for my sins, I can pray all of this in Jesus' name, Amen."

"The main thing to remember about praying, guys, is to be honest. Say what you mean. Mean what you say. Pray earnestly. Care about those you pray for."

"God will hear you. He always does. You can trust God, in everything and in this—no matter what."

"As we close our talk today about prayer, think about this question:"

SLIDE: Key Question

"How do you pray to God? Is it something you do quickly, not thinking about it, or do you yearn to hear what He has to say? If you're not sure how you'd answer that question, don't worry about it. Prayer might be something new to a lot of people, and you'll have a chance to talk more about prayer and even practice it with your Small Group. As we head out, let's . . . pray and talk to God."

Choose a willing volunteer to lead the group in a prayer related to what they just heard. After prayer, lead the Superhero Race Offering Video and then dismiss kids to Small Group.

It's time for Week 3 of our Superhero Races. This week's race pits Gabby from the Dominican Republic vs. Allen from Taiwan! Who do you think will win? Let's find out!

CG: Superhero Race 3

NOTE: Be sure to hand out this week's trading cards to your kids at a time that seems appropriate to you.