

ALLEY SG – May 11-12, 2024

Today's Bible Story: You Say (The Lord's Prayer) • *Matthew 6:9-13*

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

Today's Bottom Line: Practice praying to God.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises help for the life you are now living and the life to come.* 1 Timothy 4:8 (NIV)

1. Bible Story Extension

Bible Story Review

What You Need: "Lord's Prayer" Activity Page (one per pair of kids) pens

What You Do:

- Invite kids to sit in a circle.
- Lead a discussion to recap today's Bible Story:
 - What do we call the event that was happening in the story today? (*Jesus' Sermon on the Mount*)
 - What did Jesus say about who is part of God's Kingdom? (*The spiritually needy and humble; Those who ask for help; People who are sad; People who make peace and show mercy*)
 - What specific thing did Jesus give instructions for? (*How to pray.*)
- Put kids in pairs. Hand each pair a "Lord's Prayer" Activity Page and a pen.
- Explain that kids should work together with their partner to translate portions of the Lord's Prayer into their own words, making it more relevant and understandable to them.
- When everyone has had a chance to finish their page, bring the group back together.
- Read through each section of the prayer, allowing kids to take turns sharing what they wrote.
- Remind kids that this prayer is not necessarily the exact words to say when we pray to God. Instead, it's a guideline that helps us think about the kinds of things we can pray about.

2. Take a Snapshot

Application Activity

What You Need: "Commit Skit" Cards (one set per group)

What You Do:

- Divide the group into 3-4 different teams.
- Hand each team a card from the "Commit Skit" set.

- Explain each team will read the scenario on their card together. Then, they will create a short skit to demonstrate the commitment that is needed in that scenario.
 - Tell kids to somehow include prayer in their skit. Remind them that prayer can happen anywhere at any time!
- Once kids have had time to create their skits, give each team a turn to perform it for the group.
- After every team has performed their skit, lead the group in a discussion about how important it is to make a plan and put it into practice. Ask:
 - Why is making a plan so important when it comes to the things we are committed to?
 - What is a plan worth if we aren't willing to put it into practice?
 - How can you make a plan to pray?
 - What's the benefit of putting our plan to pray into practice?

3. Discussion Questions

- Is there a right way to pray?
- How do you pray to God?
- When can you pray?
- Is it difficult to make time for prayer? Why or why not?
- Why does prayer take practice?

4. Prayer Activity

What You Need: "Prayer Plan" Activity Page (one per kid), pens

What You Do:

- Put kids in pairs and encourage them to spread out in your group space with their partner.
- Hand each kid a copy of the "Prayer Plan" Activity Page and a pen.
- Explain that they will be spending time creating their own prayer plans, which can help guide them to pray in the days ahead.
 - They can work together with their partner to think of ideas for their plan, but each kid should create their own unique plan.
- After kids have finished their prayer plans, give them time to share a prayer request with their partner, if they would like to.
 - Kids can fill in their partner's prayer request on their "Prayer Plan" Activity Page.
- Help kids understand their plans should simply be a reminder to help them pray. They can pray anytime! Not only during designated times on their plans.
- Remind kids how with any commitment, it requires making a plan and putting it into practice. Prayer is no different! It is a skill that takes planning and practice. And we will also benefit from it as a way to grow in our faith.
- Encourage kids to use their prayer plans in the week ahead.

AT THE 5- MINUTE CALL:

PRAY

- Ask, “Does anyone have any prayer requests or things they want to thank God for from this week? *(Let the kids share their prayer requests and praises)*”
- Take some time to pray for these things as a group, then finish with the prayer below...

“God, thank You for teaching us how to pray and then listening to every prayer we pray. We are so grateful that You listen to us and that You value what we have to say. Remind us to talk to You continually, like we talk to a friend. We want to be close to You. We love You and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

- If there is still time, pass out the Parent Discussion Guides to the kids and begin to read through them together. Remind them they can do the activity at home to bring back next week for a prize.

PARENT PICK UP POINT: As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to share one part of the Lord’s prayer and what it means.