

Jesus Teaches How to Pray

BIG IDEA

I can talk to God any time.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: Luke 11:1-8

LESSON OBJECTIVE AND APPLICATION

Children will understand that prayer is talking with God. They will begin to learn how to pray and what to pray for.

At the conclusion of this lesson, the children will thank God for teaching us about prayer and letting us pray any time.

SUPPLY LIST

Welcome Activity <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 long piece of yarn for each child• 1 yellow, purple, orange, blue, green, and red bead for each child	Early Finisher Snack Activity <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Any Time, Any Place, Any Prayer</u>
Bible Lesson <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bible• Lesson Visuals 1-6 (PowerPoint)	Scripture Memory <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bible• Visuals from Bible lesson
Game Time	
Option 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Copy of each visual to tape to the wall	Option 2 <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Large colored dice (see Lesson References and Resources for an example)2. Bowl of gems (see Lesson References and Resources for an example)3. Copy of the Lord's Prayer for each child

*See Module Set-Up at the end of this lesson.

CHECK-IN / WELCOME

Welcome Activity

Make prayer bracelets to be used during the lesson as a visual reminder of the Lord's Prayer for the children to take home. In a Ziploc bag provide a long piece of yarn (If using yarn, wrap Scotch tape around one end to use as the "needle.") or plastic lace and colored beads with large holes (one yellow, purple, orange, blue, green, and red bead per child). Before class, make a knot at one end of

the string. Have children add one bead for each line of the prayer: Have a model bracelet there and a leader helping children put the colors in order. When they are finished, a leader can tie it to make a bracelet. Let them know the bracelets will become a special part of our lesson today.

Yellow – I talk to God Who is in Heaven.

Purple – I praise God because He is special.

Orange – I talk to God about the things I need.

Blue – I ask God to forgive my sins.

Green – I ask God to help me forgive others when they tell me they are sorry.

Red – I ask God to help me stay away from sin.

BIBLE LESSON

Big Idea: I can talk to God any time.

Question of the Night

Boys and girls, who do you like to talk to? (Allow time for responses.) Oh my! I also love talking to my mom, grandparents, friends, etc. How do you talk to them if you aren't with them? (Allow time for responses.) That is right! You might use a phone to call them or a computer to video chat. It is so cool that we have all these ways to help us talk to people we love, even when we aren't in the same room with them. Do you know that there is one person who is so special we can talk to Him anytime we want? We don't need a phone or anything! Let's pray and then we can learn all about it!

Prayer: Dear God, please help us to learn more about You and how You love to hear us pray. Help us to listen carefully to understand the lesson.

Lesson

In Luke chapter 11, we read about one of the disciples who asked Jesus to teach them how to pray. Praying is when we talk to God. I am going to open my Bible to Luke chapter 11:2-4. Listen carefully as I read what Jesus told His disciples to pray. *[Read Luke 11:2-4.]* There are six things to remember from this prayer Jesus taught. I brought some pictures with me today to help us understand each part of Jesus' prayer. You can also use the colors on your bracelet to help you follow along.

I need a helper to hold our first picture. *[Choose a child to hold visual 1 – yellow.]* This yellow picture reminds us of the gold streets in Heaven. The first part of Jesus' prayer helps us to remember that when we pray, we are talking to God the Father who **is in Heaven**. *[Keep all helpers in front until the end of the lesson.] [Point out the yellow on their bracelets as well.]*

I need another helper to come and hold our next picture. *[Choose a child to hold visual 2 – purple.]* This purple paper shows a picture of hands that are praising God. This picture reminds us that when we pray, we should praise God because He is special. Even His name is special. *[Point to the purple on your bracelet and say God is special.]*

[Point to the yellow visual.] Do you remember where God is? *[Allow time for responses.]* Yes, God is in Heaven. *[Point to the purple visual.]* Do you remember why we praise God when we talk to Him? *[Allow time for responses.]* Yes, we praise God because He is special.

Now I need someone else to come and hold a paper. *[Choose a child to hold visual 3 – orange.] [Touch your orange bead on your bracelet.]* Let's name the pictures on the orange paper. *[Name the pictures with the children.]* This reminds us that God gives us everything that we need. Jesus' prayer shows us that God wants us to talk to Him about the things that we need when we pray.

I need a helper to hold our next picture. [*Choose a child to hold visual 4 – blue.*] [*Point to the blue bead on your bracelet.*] This picture has the word “sin” written on it. Sins are the wrong things we do. What is the hand with the eraser doing? *Allow time for responses.*] That’s right, the eraser is wiping away the word “sin.” This picture reminds us that we need to tell God we are sorry for the wrong things we have done. Jesus’ prayer reminds us to ask God to forgive us. The Bible tells us that God will forgive us when we ask.

Since God forgives us when we ask Him to, He expects us to forgive others when they ask us for forgiveness. That’s the next part of Jesus’ prayer. Point to the green bead on your bracelet. Will someone come and hold the green page for me? [*Choose a child to hold visual 5 – green.*] It looks like these children are making up. They look like they are forgiving each other. Do you forgive people when they tell you they are sorry?

It is time to find one more helper for the color red. [*Point to the red bead on your bracelet.*] [*Choose a child to hold visual 6 – red.*] The picture on the red paper has a little girl with marks above her head. This girl has been tempted to do something that she knows she shouldn’t do. She has a decision to make. Will she choose to do what is right? [*Trace the check mark on the image with your finger.*] Or will she do what is wrong? [*Trace the x on the image with your finger.*] This reminds us that when we pray, we should ask God to help us to do the right thing when we are tempted to do things we shouldn’t do. God tells us that He will help us stay away from sin. He wants us to pray and ask for help when we are tempted.

Application

Isn’t it so cool that we can talk to God at any time? We don’t need a phone or a computer. We don’t need to ask someone for help. God is always there ready to listen. We call talking to God prayer. Let’s review how Jesus taught us to pray. [*Collect the visuals as you review each one.*]

We talk to God Who is in Heaven. [*Take yellow visual.*]

We praise God because He is special. God’s name is even special. [*Take purple visual.*]

We talk to God about the things that we need. [*Take orange visual.*]

We ask God to forgive us for our sins. We tell Him we are sorry for the wrong things we have done. [*Take blue visual.*]

We should also forgive other people when they ask for forgiveness. [*Take green visual.*]

We ask God to help us stay away from sin. [*Take red visual.*]

Let’s pray to God right now.

Prayer: Thank you, God, that we can talk to You anytime we want. Thank you for teaching us how we can pray.

Transition to Table Time

Let’s play a game to get to Table Time. I will say some things that are fake about our lesson today. When I get to something that is true about our lesson, you can hop to Table Time.

1. You have to have a phone to talk to God. (No, that is fake!) We don’t need anything special to talk to God.
2. You can only talk to God at certain times during the day. (No, that is fake!) God is ready to listen anytime we want to talk to Him.
3. You can pray to God any time you want! (Yes!) Hop to Table Time.

TABLE TIME

SNACK IDEAS

Option 1: Rainbow Prayers

Serve multi-colored fruit snacks, gum drops, jellybeans, or fruit-flavored circle-shaped cereal.

Option 2: Pretzel Prayers

Use small round pretzels, chocolate Kisses, and the colored candy or topping of your choice to make a fun treat for the children. Unwrap the chocolate Kisses and place in the center of the round pretzels on a microwavable plate. Microwave on high power for approximately 10 seconds or until the chocolate is softened. (Time will vary with each microwave.) Add a colored candy or some colored sprinkles to the softened chocolate. Refrigerate to harden the chocolate.

Lesson Link: As the children enjoy their snacks, encourage them to identify the various colors. Discuss the colors that were used in the lesson this week and ask if the children can recall what those colors were associated with.

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Snack Time Discussion Suggestions:

Highs/Lows of the week: What is something that you would want us to pray for you this week? (Low)
What is something that you are so excited about and want to thank God for this week? (High)

Early Finisher Activity: Read a portion of Any Time, Any Place, Any Prayer to the children.

LESSON REVIEW

Use Activity Sheet (I Can Pray - Lesson 1)

Questions for Further Discussion:

1. What is it called when we talk to God? (Prayer)
2. When and where can you pray? (Anytime and anywhere)
3. Will God help us stay away from sin? (Yes, all we need to do is ask Him.)
4. Does God want us to talk to Him about the things we need? (Yes)

Transition to Scripture Memory: We can pray to God at any time no matter how we are feeling. Sometimes we pray when we are happy, sad, or even angry. Let's skip and smile to Scripture Memory to remind us we can pray when we are happy.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY

Verse: Luke 18:1b

Scripture Explanation: *[Read the verse aloud from the Bible in the version that the children will be learning.]* You always need to talk to God through prayer. Don't give up talking to Him. He hears you all the time. *Say the verse aloud several times, including the reference. Then, ask the children to repeat it with you a few more times.*

Activity — We Can Talk to God

Place the visuals from the Bible lesson in a circle. Have the children form a circle and hold hands around the pictures. Lead the children in the following song to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell" as they walk around the circle:

We can talk to God.
We can talk to God.
Jesus taught us how to pray.
We can talk to God.

When the song ends, the children who are standing closest to a picture pick it up. All those holding a picture should say the Bible verse including the reference. Have the children put their pictures down and continue playing as time allows.

Transition to Game Time

When we pray God hears our prayers even if they are silent prayers we say in our heads. Let's tug on our ears as we walk to Game Time to remember that God hears our prayers all the time.

GAME TIME

Option 1: Prayer Colors

Put a copy of the colored visuals up on the walls of the room. (Use all four walls.) Say parts of the Lord's Prayer and ask children which color that part goes with. Tell them to walk to that color on the wall. For variation have them walk to the color in different ways. (Hop, skip, snap, twirl, walk sideways, etc.)

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Option 2: Prayer Dice

Use a large dice with colored sides. Have children take turns rolling the dice. When they land on a color, they can remind the group what that color stands for. Have the class repeat the phrase the color stands for. **Variation:** After a child correctly tells what the color stands for they get to pick a gem. Once a child gets 3 gems they win! You can start the game over after a child gets 3 stones.

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A copy of what each color stands for will be on the back of this week's Activity page for the child to take home.

Lesson Link: Remind children that praying is simply talking to God. In the Bible lesson today, Jesus showed us how to pray. Encourage the children to use their prayer bracelets this coming week to talk to God.

LESSON REFERENCES AND RESOURCES*

1. Gems - <https://teachersource.wol.org/resource/GBBS24/13-1/>
2. Colored Dice - <https://teachersource.wol.org/resource/GBBS24/13-2/>
3. Any Time, Any Place, Any Prayer - <https://teachersource.wol.org/resource/GBBS24/13-3/>

**The websites and sources listed above are not affiliated with or sponsored by Word of Life. They should be used only for reference or resource purposes and may contain content not endorsed by Word of Life.*

END OF LESSON

HOME CONNECTION*

Big Idea: I can talk to God any time.

Our Bible lesson was taught from Luke 11:1-8.

You can ask your child: When and how can you talk to God? (Any time - use bracelet to help tell how Jesus taught us to pray.)

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Memory verse: Luke 18:1b

Your child should be on week _____ in their Quiet Time.

**The content above is the Home Connection found on the front of the activity page. It is designed to assist you in communicating with parents.*

MODULE SET-UP

Extra Welcoming Activity Options

Basic Optional Activities

1. Have children play with different colors of Play-Doh. If it is after lesson one have them talk about what each color means when we pray. (Include yellow, purple, orange, blue, green, and red.)
2. Provide plastic toy lions and blocks. Have children make a “lion’s den.”
3. Provide children with different colors of Legos. They can make a prayer train and discuss what each color means when remembering what to pray for. (Include yellow, purple, orange, blue, green, and red.)

Sensory Bin

Use different colors of pasta to represent the different colors that help us know how Jesus taught us to pray. You may choose to dye white pasta using one cap of rubbing alcohol or vinegar, food coloring, and a plastic bag. Shake the bags until the colors cover the pasta. Use colors yellow, purple, orange, blue, green, and red. Dry pasta on a cookie sheet before putting it into the sensory bin.

Provide different scoops and colored bowls so children can sort the colored pasta into bowls.

See Introductory Pages for how to set up a sensory bin.