

WEEK 1 | 4-5 | PARENT LESSON GUIDE



Need to Know: I Can Talk to God

Bible Story: The Lord's Prayer

Bible Reference: Matthew 6:5-15, Luke 11:1-13

READ THE BIBLE

DO Read the **Bible Story Sheet** aloud to kids, using the **dry erase marker** to draw on the **dry erase board** as prompted. Erase with a **paper towel** as needed. Can use blank paper to draw on instead.

- SAY**
- *How did Jesus say it was best for us to pray? (All alone, by ourselves, etc.) Yes! He said this because the Pharisees were praying to show off instead of just wanting to talk to God.*
 - *Is praying supposed to be easy or hard? (Easy) Praying is easy because it's just talking to God like He is your friend!*
 - *What can you talk to God about? (Allow responses - Anything)*

LET'S PRAY

- DO**
1. Give kids **drawing utensils** and a **Prayer Map Activity Sheet**.
 2. Starting at number 1 on the Prayer Map, read the text at each number and encourage kids to repeat after you in their hearts. Give them time to fill in the boxes with words or pictures before moving on to the next number.

LET'S PRACTICE

OPTION 1: Pictionary

- DO**
1. Select a child to draw for the first round of Pictionary.
 2. Give the child the **dry erase board**, **dry erase marker**, and **paper towel** (or blank paper).
 3. Tell them a picture to draw from the left column on **Leader Guide** and let the group guess what is being drawn.
 4. After they guess, read the matching text next to the picture on the Leader Guide.
 5. Repeat steps 1-4 until all pictures have been drawn and discussed.

OPTION 2: DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. *What are some questions you have had about prayer and talking to God?*
2. *Is it hard for you to talk to God? Why or why not?*
3. *What is something you want to talk to God about today?*
(Take time to allow the child to pray a short prayer about this immediately)
4. *Say this with me again: **I Can Talk to God***

MEMORIZE IT

SAY

Today we're going to start memorizing a new Bible verse! Say this after me:

"Don't worry about anything.

No matter what happens,

tell God about everything.

Ask and pray,

and give thanks to Him."

Philippians 4:6

DO

Have kids say the verse fast like they're running a race and then slowly as if in slow motion.




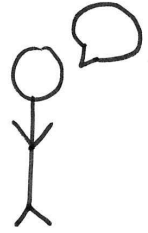
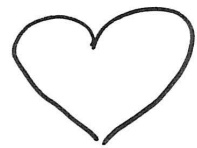
Give kids **a pencil or pen** and let them complete the **Scrambled Words** activity sheet.

BIBLE STORY SHEET

Wk 1 - Bible Story Sheet

Read and follow the instructions below, drawing on a dry erase board or blank paper when prompted and allowing kids to guess the picture as you draw.

Say: ***I'm going to draw a picture and you get to guess what I'm drawing. Then I will tell you what that picture means in our Bible story!***

<p>Draw an <u>ear</u>:</p> 	<p>Then say: <i>Did you know that you can pray and talk to God, and He will hear you?</i> (Allow responses)</p> <p><i>Well, it's true! And that's why I drew an ear. Because you can talk to God any time, anywhere and know that He's all ears! One time, Jesus told a story to help us know how we should and should not pray.</i></p> <p><i>Let's see if you can guess the next picture!</i></p>
<p>Draw a <u>mean face</u>:</p> 	<p>Then say: <i>It's a mean face. That's because this story is about some people, called Pharisees, who were not very nice. Everything these people did was to show off for other people, and they even tried to show off for God. If they did something kind, it was only so others would see it. And if they prayed, it was super loud because they were trying to make themselves sound better than others. But Jesus had something to say about it.</i></p> <p><i>What do you think Jesus told the people?</i> (Allow responses) <i>Let's see if you can guess what I draw next and we'll find out.</i></p>
<p>Draw a <u>person</u>:</p> 	<p>Then say: <i>It's a person! That's because Jesus told the people not to be like the Pharisees, showing off for others. And you'll notice that I only drew one person. That's because Jesus told people that when we pray, we should go into our room, close the door, and pray to our heavenly Father. Jesus was explaining that God cares most about who we are when no one else is watching. He just wants us to talk to Him about what's in our hearts.</i></p> <p><i>Let's see if you can guess what this next drawing means.</i></p>
<p>Draw a <u>person talking</u>:</p> 	<p>Then say: <i>It's a picture of someone talking because Jesus showed us how we can talk to God. Jesus said to pray like this, "Our Father in heaven, we pray that Your name will always be kept holy. We pray that Your kingdom will come, and that what You want will be done here on Earth, the same as in heaven. Give us the food we need for each day. Forgive our sins, just as we have forgiven those who did wrong to us. Don't let us be tempted, but save us from the Evil One." Jesus showed us that talking to God is simple! We can say, "Hey God," and tell Him how great He is. We can even say we're sorry for any wrong things we've done and ask Him for anything we need.</i></p> <p><i>Now let's see if you can guess the next picture!</i></p>
<p>Draw a <u>heart</u>:</p> 	<p>Then say: <i>It's a heart! I drew this because I want us to remember that God loves us so much, and He loves to hear us pray! Do you think God ever gets tired of hearing you talk to Him?</i> (No) <i>No way! God loves to hear us talk to Him no matter if we are happy, sad, excited, or sick. It's always a good time to talk to God!</i></p>

PRAYER MAP

We can pray like Jesus taught us to pray using simple words.
Just fill in the blanks with your own words or pictures.



① God, You are a great Father!
I want what You want,
because You know what's best.

② Today I need...

③ Please forgive me for...

④ Please help me forgive...

⑤ Help me do the right things
today when I...

⑥ Thank You for protecting me.
I love You, God!
Amen.

Name _____



Eyes

OK. When I say go, show me thumbs up if you think you need to close your eyes when you pray. But if you think you don't need to close your eyes to pray, show me thumbs down. One, two, three, GO! (Allow responses)

What if I told you that all of you were right?! If you feel yourself getting distracted by what you see around you, you can close your eyes. But you don't always have to close your eyes to talk to God. You can talk to Him in any way!



Clock

Can you only pray at meals and before bed? (No)

Those are great times to pray, but those are not the only times we can talk to God. God wants us to talk to Him all the time, just like we talk to our families and friends.

When are some other times in your day that you can talk to God? (Allow responses. If needed, suggest: when you wake up, as you go to school, during your school day, when you want to say, "Thank You," etc.)



Door

Did Jesus tell His followers it was better to pray on a mountain or in your room with the door closed? (Room with the door closed)

That's right! Jesus said this because prayer is a special conversation with God, our heavenly Father.



Heart

What are some things that you love to talk about with your friends? (Allow responses)

God, our Father, loves to hear us talk to Him and tell Him about all the things we love because He loves us so much. Talking to God in prayer is a way that we can get closer to God, just like we get closer to our friends when we talk with them.



Scared Face

George is at a friend's house and they ask him to pray out loud before everyone eats dinner. George doesn't want to pray because he's scared people will laugh at him. Should we worry what others think of us when we pray? (Allow responses)

God never wants us to feel scared or worried about talking to Him. He loves to hear us talk to Him no matter what we say. We don't have to worry about what others think of our prayers because God is the only One who matters.



Father

When Jesus taught His friends to pray, He told them to pray for God's name to be kept holy. Does that mean we can call God whatever we want? (No) **No, His name is special so we need to treat it that way! When we pray, we don't have to say anything fancy, but we can say respectful things like, "Hey God," and "Father God."** **What are some other ways we can start our conversations with God?** (Allow responses)



Toys

What is something that you can tell God, "Thank You," for? (Allow responses)

Those are awesome things to thank God! Every good thing we have is from God and we should thank Him as much as we can!

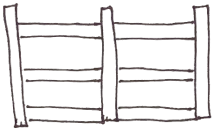


Angry Face

Has anyone ever done something to hurt you or that made you mad? (Allow responses)

What did you do when that happened? (Allow responses)

When Jesus taught His disciples to pray, He told them that we can ask God to forgive us when we do wrong things, AND we can ask God to help us to forgive others. When people hurt us or make us mad, we can pray and ask God to help us forgive them. He will hear us, and He will help us!



Fence

Think about this fence. Do we have fences to protect things or so things can get messed up? (To protect things)

Yes! We may have fences so our pets don't run away or so that wild animals don't eat the food in our gardens. Jesus tells us that we can pray and ask God to protect us, just as a fence protects pets and gardens.

You see, our enemy, the devil, wants us to tempt or trick us into doing wrong things. But we can pray and ask God to protect us from being tempted to do wrong things.



Hand

When you are about to leave your friend, what do you say to them? (Bye, Goodbye)

Yes! When we are finished talking to God, we can tell Him goodbye, also. We do that by saying, "Amen." The word "Amen" means "so let it be" or "it is true." So when we say, "Amen," we are saying that we believe God has heard our prayer, we mean everything that we have prayed, and we trust God will answer us in His perfect way and time.

Directions: Unscramble the words to help you practice the memory verse!

“ _____ worry _____
D n ' o t t u a b o

anything. No matter _____
a t w h

happens, _____ God about
l e t l

everything. _____ and _____,
s k A y r p a

and give _____ to Him.”
k n s t a h

Philippians 4:6

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