



Pray Without Ceasing



Key Passages

- 1 Thessalonians 5:16–18; Psalm 95:2, 146:1–2; 1 John 1:9; Matthew 6:11

Lesson Focus

- God wants His children to pray.

Lesson Overview



Come On In

Students will draw pictures of people onto the Family Portrait Sheet as a review of Lesson 8. If appropriate include play dough as well.



Circle Time

Prayer—Using the Flip Chart Prayer Page, discuss prayer and give each child the opportunity to pray after determining what type of prayer you will offer today.

God's Word—God loves His children and wants them to talk to Him every day. We talk to God through prayer. Some types of prayers include adoration, confession, supplication, and thanksgiving.

Song Time—Students will sing songs to help them remember the lesson of the day. Lyrics to the songs are found on the Flip Chart Song Page and the Song Sheet at the back of this Teacher Guide.



Activity 1: Prayer Toss

Students will listen to the teacher say a prayer. They will then toss a beanbag into a box that correctly identifies that type of prayer.



Activity 2: Prayer Disc

Students will color and assemble a Prayer Disc to help them remember the four types of prayers we talked about in our lesson.



Memory Verse Review and Activity

Students will review the memory verse as they play a game and recite/sing the verse. Give them an opportunity to repeat the verse with you or after you individually.



Applying God's Word/Snack

Students will review the lesson while enjoying the snack for the day.

Lesson Preparation

WHAT YOU WILL DO

WHAT YOU WILL NEED



FOR THE TEACHER

- Study the Prepare to Share section.
- Go Before the Throne.



COME ON IN

- Print one Family Portrait Sheet from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student.
- Provide play dough if appropriate.

- Family Portrait Sheet for each student
- Crayons
- Play dough
- Cookie cutters



CIRCLE TIME

- Practice the songs on the Song Sheet at the back of this Teacher Guide.

- Stuffed animal for prayer time
- Bible
- Lesson Flip Chart Page
- Cell phone to be used during lesson
- Addressed envelope to be used during lesson



PRAYER TOSS

- Print one copy of the Prayer Toss Prayers from the Resource DVD-ROM.
- Print and cut one copy of each Prayer Toss Image from the Resource DVD-ROM.

- Prayer Toss Prayers
- 4 Prayer Toss Images
- 4 baskets or boxes
- One beanbag
- Tape



PRAYER DISC

- Print, cut, and assemble one copy of the Prayer Disc from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student, preferably on cardstock.

- Prayer Disc for each student
- Brass fasteners
- Crayons
- Stickers
- Completed Prayer Disc to show



MEMORY VERSE REVIEW AND ACTIVITY

- Print and cut out one set of the 9 Memory Verse Flashcards from the Resource DVD-ROM for your use—preferably on cardstock. You will use these flashcards for Lessons 7–12.

- Flip Chart Memory Verse Page
- Nine Memory Verse Flashcards
- Tape or poster putty



APPLYING GOD'S WORD/SNACK

- Prepare and bring snacks.

- Student Take Home Sheets
- Lesson Flip Chart for Review
- Snacks



Prepare to Share

SCRIPTURAL BACKGROUND

Prepare to teach by preparing your heart. Read the key passages listed above with this background.

We are all sinners and fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). As believers we are saved by grace through faith—not by our own works so that we could never boast (Ephesians 2:8–9).

As sinners saved through grace, we know that we have received the Spirit of adoption and can now call God, “Abba, Father” (Romans 8:15–16).

Because of these wonderful truths, we know, as believers, that we can come boldly and confidently to the throne of grace where we find God’s mercy to help in our times of need (Hebrews 4:16). This is both a privilege and a command given to us by God, our Father. The Apostle Paul told the Thessalonians to pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17). Jesus commanded in His Word to ask, and it will be given; to seek, and it will be found; and to knock, and it will be opened (Matthew 7:7). Jesus assured His disciples (and all believers) that whatever we would ask in His name He would do in order that the Father may be glorified in the Son (John 14:13–14). We see this principle repeated in 1 John 5:14–15 where we read that if we ask anything according to God’s will, He hears us!

The prayers of believers that Jesus is referring to must be presented in Jesus’s name and according to His will. These prayers would be prayers directed, not toward selfish gain, but the furthering of the kingdom so that the Father will be glorified and honored.

But what is the proper way to pray? Most people are familiar with the Lord’s Prayer in Matthew 6:9–13. This is an example set before us by Jesus Himself of how to pray. This prayer includes worship of God, trust in God, supplication to God for daily needs, confession of sins before God, and a humble submission to God as we wait and trust that He will answer our prayers according to His perfect will.

We find more direction from the Apostle Paul in his writings to the Philippians (and to us through the inspired Word of God). Here we are told to be anxious for nothing and in ALL things by prayer, with thanksgiving, to present our requests to God. Only confidence and complete dependence on God will allow us to pray in this way. And it will result in the peace of God guarding our hearts and minds through Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:6–7).

The Bible gives other examples of various types of prayers that we can learn from. You may have seen the acronym ACTS used to illustrate some of these prayers.

A – Adoration is to worship and adore God—to sing praises to Him while we have our being (Psalm 146:1–2).

C – Confession is to come before God in humility and ask for His forgiveness for the times we sin against Him (1 John 1:9).

T – Thanksgiving is to continually be aware of and thank God for the many blessings He allows in our lives every day! The psalmist said it well: “Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms” (Psalm 95:2).

S – Supplication is to come to God, our heavenly Father, with our daily needs and the needs of others. The Lord’s Prayer includes praying for our daily bread (Matthew 6:11). We know that God cares for us and will supply all our needs according to His riches in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:19).

It is truly a privilege as a child of God to approach His throne of grace with our requests. God expects and desires us to come to Him honestly. Praying in all things reveals a dependence on His sovereignty and will for our lives. We can trust that as our “Abba, Father,” He knows all things. He knows our hearts better than we know them ourselves, and He will always answer our prayers in ways that are best for us—according to His perfect will.

HISTORICAL/APOLOGETICS BACKGROUND

As believers, we have access to God’s throne of grace through Jesus Christ, our great High Priest (Hebrews 4:14–16). We can present our prayers before Him and have confidence that He hears us (1 John 5:14–15). But we may have heard people ask or may have asked ourselves whether or not God hears and answers the prayers of unbelievers. How many times have we heard non-Christians say they’ll pray for us? Or how many times have we seen prayers offered by those who are from a non-Christian religion? Does God hear or answer these prayers? To answer this question, we’ll need to look at our source for truth, the Word of God.

Of course, God can do whatever He wants that is in accord with His will and His nature. So, He could answer any prayer if He so chooses. But Scripture clearly indicates that God does not listen to or answer every prayer. Here are a number of verses from both the Old and New Testaments that would indicate that God does not attend to the prayers of unbelievers.

Isaiah 1:15 – When you spread out your hands, I will hide My eyes from you; even though you

make many prayers, I will not hear. Your hands are full of blood.

Isaiah 59:2 – But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.

Psalms 24:3–4 – Who may ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who may stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, nor sworn deceitfully.

Psalms 34:15–16 – The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their cry. The face of the Lord is against those who do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.

Psalms 66:18 – If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear.

Proverbs 15:8 – The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord, but the prayer of the upright is His delight.

Proverbs 28:9 – One who turns away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer is an abomination.

James 1:5–7 – If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord.

James 4:3–4 – You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures. Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

According to these verses, there are several reasons why God may not listen to or answer prayer. He will not answer the prayers of those who are idolaters, who swear falsely, who do evil, who regard iniquity in their hearts, who are wicked, who turn away from His Law, who don't ask in faith, who ask for their own pleasures, and who are friends of the world.

Scripture tells us that all who have not humbly repented of their sin and submitted to the Lordship of Christ are enemies of God (Romans 5:10). They are dead in trespasses and sins and are slaves to sin (Ephesians 2:1; Romans 6:17). They do not have faith,

and thus are unable to please God (Hebrews 11:6). They are idolaters and have substituted the worship of the one true God with the worship of created things (Romans 1:22–23). And because they do not worship the true God, His ears are closed to their prayers.

In our pluralistic society today, such a view would be greeted with cries of intolerance. Who are Christians to say that God doesn't hear the prayers of sincere non-Christians? Don't all religions have access to God? But these complaints are directed at God Himself who has clearly spoken to this in His Word.

The enemy, Satan, loves "religion" and false hope in prayer. He wants people to think that being "spiritual" by praying and being religious are good things in themselves. He is happy with people who think that because they meditate or pray or go to religious services, they are on the right side with God. Satan does not want people to rightly understand the love of God as seen in Scripture through Jesus Christ, the only Savior. Nor does he want them to contemplate and fear the wrath of God promised at the last judgment when God will surely condemn all who have rejected Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son.

The truth is, the only prayer of a non-believer that God will hear and answer with all surety is the prayer of humble repentance for sins followed by the declaration of sincere faith in Jesus Christ, the Savior. This is the prayer of submission to God's will that will bring salvation to the lost soul through the gospel.

And for believers, we can be confident in the one true God and know that the only Mediator between God and man, Jesus Christ, is at the right hand of God the Father making intercession for us (1 Timothy 2:5; Romans 8:34).



BEFORE THE THRONE

Father God, you are a loving provider of all things good. You want your children to come to you in faith believing that you want the best for us, and you will answer. Help us, Lord to trust you in all things—and bring all things before you in prayer. Show my students the importance of using prayer to adore you, confess sin, thank you, and ask you to meet their needs. They have so many years ahead of them. May they learn early in their lives the wonderful privilege it is to pray. Help them to trust your promise to hear and answer the prayers of your children.



COME ON IN

As children arrive . . .

- They will draw sketches of people to add to God's family on the Family Portrait Sheet and then color the picture as a review of Lesson 8.
- If there is time, they can play with play dough.

During this time you should be at the door welcoming the children as they come in and directing them to sit down at the tables and begin the activity. Have an aid/helper ready to engage the children with the activity.



REVIEW

Using the Flip Chart, quickly review the previous lessons with your students. Take 5 to 10 minutes to reinforce the important truths the students have heard so far in your class.

Ask the children questions about the previous lessons as you display the Lesson Flip Chart Pages. Remind the children of each lesson's focus. This will refresh the truths in your students' minds and maintain continuity as you teach through the lessons.



Circle Time

In an orderly manner, have the children assemble in a circle away from the tables—either on the floor or in their chairs. Bring your Lesson Flip Chart, Bible, stuffed animal for prayer time, a cell phone, an addressed envelope, and any other props you brought or prepared for this lesson.

PRAYER

This prayer time is designed to get children to begin to understand some simple concepts about prayer and to get them to understand that they can pray. Use a special stuffed animal—prayer bear—or an appropriate object to pass around the circle as each child gets his/her turn to pray. Only the child with the stuffed animal is allowed to pray or speak during this time. Using the same stuffed animal or other object all year will add continuity and structure to this time.

We start our Bible study with prayer. Let's pray. Turn to the Flip Chart Prayer Page. Briefly review the different types of prayer presented there. Then determine which type you want the children to pray today.

- I love you prayers—Adoration
- I'm sorry prayers—Confession
- Thank you prayers—Thanksgiving
- Please prayers—Supplication

Today Supplication is suggested. You might proceed this way:

Today we will ask God for something. That is a prayer of supplication, or a "please" prayer. God cares about us and has promised to provide us with all we need.

The prayers you begin with should be specific to your needs. This will model to the children that you believe God does care about all the details of your life, and you pray to Him about these things. Your example will increase their confidence in praying to God.

➤ Prior to making your transition to Circle Time, we suggest you take time for restroom breaks and hand washing.

➤ Preschoolers need to move. This is a good opportunity to get them to move. Make an orderly transition to the Circle Time. You can have carpet squares if you want to sit on the floor, or help them to move their chairs into the circle.

► As you teach, refer often to the Lesson Flip Chart Page to keep the children engaged. When reading the lesson Scriptures, stand up, be enthusiastic, look at the children, and emphasize the answers to the questions you will be asking.

Bible Pass Around

► Before Bible Pass Around, place a sticky note in your Bible to mark the first passage to be read.

► When the Bible Pass Around Activity is completed, continue with the lesson.

I'll start. Dear God, I know that you hear all my prayers, and you will give me all I need according to your perfect will. Lord could you please . . . *(insert personal prayer).*

Pass the stuffed animal around the circle giving all the children an opportunity to say a prayer asking God for something they need or want.

Very good! Now let's put our stuffed animal away, and we'll get into God's Word.

GOD'S WORD

These first five questions will be repeated each week this quarter. The repetition of these questions will help to solidify these simple but foundational truths in the children's minds at a young age.

- ? **What is sin?** *Sin is any disobedience against God.*
- ? **Who is a sinner?** *Every person is born in sin.*
- ? **Did Jesus ever sin?** *No. He lived a sinless life.*
- ? **Does everyone go to heaven?** *No. Only those whose hearts are changed and believe in Jesus.*
- ? **What does it mean to believe in Jesus?** *To trust that Jesus alone can save me.*

The following activity should be repeated at the beginning of each lesson to encourage anticipation and enthusiasm for looking into the Word of God. Use a sticky note to mark today's passage before you begin.

We are going to start out today by looking into God's Word, the Bible. *Hold up Bible.* **God's Word is true, and we can trust what it says. But where should we look? One of you will help me with that. We're going to play Bible Pass Around. Whoever ends up with the Bible must hold it very carefully until it is time to look in it. When it is time to read, you can bring it to me, and we'll open it to see what we are going to talk about! Here's what we're going to do. I want everyone to count with me up to the number** *choose a number. You may also choose to practice the alphabet, recite the books of the Bible, sing one of the lesson songs, or recite the memory verse as you do this activity.* **We'll start right here.** *Hand the Bible to the first student.* **As we say each number (or word) you must carefully pass the Bible to the person beside you—remember, we don't want to drop it or tear it. Then when we get to the last number (or word), whoever has the Bible will hold on to it until we are ready to start our lesson. Are you ready? Let's begin.** *You may want to have the student with the Bible stand next to you until it is time to open it. Continue with the lesson when finished with Bible Pass Around.*

Refer to Lesson 7 Flip Chart Page. **God offers the free gift of grace to sinners. When a sinner receives God's grace and believes in Jesus Christ he is saved. His sins are forgiven! And he will be with God in heaven when he dies.**

- ? *Refer to Lesson 8 Flip Chart Page.* **What happens when someone believes in Jesus? What does he become?** *A child of God!*

Yes! If you are part of God's family, then God is your Father and Jesus is your Brother. One day you will go to heaven to be with God forever! This is wonderful news for everyone who believes in Jesus! And if you are a Christian, you get to do something else, something very special, something we do in this class a lot!

? Can you think what that might be? *Allow discussion.*

? I'll give you a hint! How many of you talk to your moms and dads? *Show of hands.*

Of course you talk to them. Well, if God is your Father, you can talk to Him, too!

? *Refer to the cell phone.* Do we use a cell phone to talk to God? *No!*

? *Refer to addressed envelope.* Do we write a letter to God and put it in the mailbox? *No!*

? How do we talk to God here in class? *Allow discussion.*

We talk to God through prayer! Remember, when you trust Jesus, God makes you His child, and He becomes your Father.

Make this a special time as the student brings the Bible, and he/she opens it to where the sticky note is. Show the students where the book is. Let them look at it. Carry it around your circle.

Refer to Flip Chart Memory Verse Page. We have been studying this memory verse for a few weeks. It says something about prayer. Let's say the verse together right now. *Recite the verse together.*

? What does this verse say about prayer? *Allow discussion.*

This verse says we are to pray without ceasing.

? What do you think it means to pray without ceasing? *Allow discussion.*

We are to pray every day—all the time! God wants His children to talk to Him. When we pray, we are talking to God. *Refer to the Flip Chart Prayer Page.*

? Who can tell me one of the kinds of prayers we can say? *Adoration – I love you prayers. Confession – I'm sorry prayers. Thanksgiving – Thank you prayers. Supplication – Please prayers.*

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart Page. The Bible gives us some examples of these prayers. I want to read one right now. I want to see if you can tell me which one of the prayers it is.

I am going to read from Psalm 146:1–2. Listen and tell me what kind of prayer you think it is. *Read Psalm 146:1–2 enthusiastically emphasizing the word "praise."*

? What kind of prayer is this? *Allow discussion.*

Refer to Lesson Flip Chart Page. This is a prayer of adoration. The man who wrote this was singing praises to God! He was adoring God! This is one way God likes His children to pray.

1 Thessalonians 5:16–18

➤ Allow students to mention the prayers one at a time and briefly discuss the prayer as listed in the prayer section above, on the Flip Chart Prayer Page, or on the Lesson Flip Chart Page.

Psalm 146:1–2

1 John 1:9

➤ Continue to refer to the Flip Chart Prayer Page and/or Lesson Flip Chart Page as you discuss these verses.

Psalm 95:2

➤ Share some things you are thankful to God for. This will encourage the students to share as well.

Matthew 6:11

➤ Share some things you have asked God for on your own behalf and also on behalf of others, so the students will better understand prayers of supplication.

? What are some words we can say to tell God we adore Him? *Allow discussion. I love you! You are great! You are so good!*

Here is another way God's children can pray. Listen to this and tell me what kind of prayer this might be. *Read 1 John 1:9. Emphasize the words "confess" and "sins."*

? What kind of prayer is this? *Allow discussion.*

This is a prayer about confessing our sins! God wants His children to confess their sins and tell Him they are sorry!

? How do you feel when you do something bad? *Sad.*

This verse says that when God's children confess their sins, God will forgive them! They do not need to feel sad about their sin anymore!

The Bible has a lot of prayers! Let me read another one, and you tell me what it is! I am going to read Psalm 95:2. *Read Psalm 95:2 emphasizing the word "thanksgiving."*

? What kind of prayer is this? *Allow discussion.*

This is a prayer of thanksgiving, isn't it? It says let us come to God with thanksgiving! God wants His children to be grateful and say thank you for all the things He gives us.

? What things are you grateful for? *Allow discussion. Share some things you are thankful for.*

Everything we have comes from God! And God wants us to have hearts that are thankful!

OK. I have one more. This is in Matthew 6:11. Listen as I read this. *Read Matthew 6:11 enthusiastically.*

? So what is this verse asking God for? *Allow discussion.*

Re-read the verse. This verse is asking the Lord to give us the bread we will need for that day. We can ask God for anything—even the food we eat each day.

? What kind of prayer is that—when we ask God to provide our needs? *Allow discussion.*

This is an example of a prayer of supplication—asking God for things. We ask God for things in this class a lot. God wants His children to ask Him for things. And like a good Father, God loves to give good things to His children!

? What are some things you have asked God for? *Allow discussion. Share some things you have asked God for.*

God is our Father, and we can talk to Him through prayer anywhere and anytime! He wants us to adore and praise Him! He wants us to tell Him

we are sorry when we sin! He wants us to thank Him for all the things He does for us. And He wants us to ask Him for things we need and for things others need, too. God wants His children to pray to Him every day because He loves us and we love Him!

SONG TIME

Turn to the *Flip Chart Memory Verse Page*. Our memory verse says to rejoice always, to pray without ceasing, and always to tell God thanks. We can do all those things by praying to God. Let's sing that now! Sing the *Memory Verse Song* two or three times.

Turn to the *Flip Chart Song Page*. God wants us to pray. I want to teach you a new song that will remind you of that! Everyone get in a circle and hold hands. Listen as I sing it first. Then we will sing it together. Sing "Pray to God." The students can repeat the lines/verses after you to help them remember it. You can also sing it using the hand motions on the *Song Sheet* at the end of this *Teacher Guide*.

Repeat songs as time allows. You may want to add hand motions, stomping, marching, or instruments.

► Turn to the *Flip Chart Song Page* and *Flip Chart Memory Verse Page* during this part of the lesson.

► Lyrics can be found on the *Flip Chart Song Page* and the *Song Sheet* at the end of this *Teacher Guide*.



Prayer Toss

MATERIALS

- Prayer Toss Prayers from Resource DVD-ROM
- 4 Prayer Toss Images
- 4 baskets or boxes
- One or more beanbags
- Tape

INSTRUCTIONS

Use tape to place one *Prayer Toss Image* on each box: *Confession, Adoration, Supplication, Thanksgiving*. Put the boxes in a row on the floor. Recite the prayers from the *Prayer Toss Questions*. If they get the answer, they can try to throw the beanbag into the right box. They will need your help in determining which box is which! You may want the whole class to work together to determine the answers and students can take turns tossing the beanbag.

I am going to read some prayers to you. You will take turns. Each of you will get a turn. If you know what kind of prayer it is, you can toss the beanbag into the proper box! Let's get started. Everyone will get a turn. So let's line up!

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

We love to talk to God. He listens to our prayers! God hears our prayers of praise to His name! He is happy when we say thanks for the gifts He gives us. God listens when we tell Him we are sorry for doing something wrong. And He hears us when we ask Him for something!



Prayer Disc

MATERIALS

- Prayer Disc for each student
- Crayons, stickers, other things to decorate the disc
- Brass fastener for each student
- Completed Prayer Disc to show

INSTRUCTIONS

Print and cut out the smaller top disc. Cut out the "window" as indicated. Print and cut the larger bottom disc. Depending on the ability of your class and the help you have, you may want the students to assemble the Prayer Disc during class. Or, before class you can attach the smaller disc on top of the larger disc at the dot in the center using a brass fastener. Allow the students to color and/or decorate the disc with crayons, stickers, etc. When finished, review the different types of prayers.

Today we are going to make a Prayer Disc to use at home when we pray. When your Prayer Disc is complete, you can spin the cover to show which type of prayer you want to pray. *Show completed Prayer Disc.*

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

God loves His children and wants them to talk to Him in prayer. When we pray, we are talking to God. We can tell God how much we love Him. We can thank God for the things He has given us. We can ask God for the things we need because He cares for us. And we can come to God when we have sinned to tell Him how sorry we are.



Memory Verse Review and Activity

1 Thessalonians 5:16–18 Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

MATERIALS

- Flip Chart Memory Verse Page
- Memory Verse Flashcards printed on cardstock (they will be used in Lesson 7–12)
- Tape or poster putty

INSTRUCTIONS

Review the memory verse from the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page. Print, preferably onto cardstock, and cut out one set of the Memory Verse Flashcards. Pass the flashcards to nine students. Ask, “Who has the first flashcard?” Instruct the student to put the flashcard on the wall or board. Do the same for the remaining flashcards until all of them are on the wall in the proper order. Then call on students to remove the cards one at a time—reciting the verse after each card is removed.

We’re going to practice our memory verse. Let’s say it first. Refer to the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page.

Pass out the nine Memory Verse Flashcards. Good job! Now here are nine flashcards with the

memory verse on them. I want you to bring these flashcards up and put them on the board while we practice the verse. Who has Flashcard #1? Continue placing the flashcards in order on the board. Refer to the pictures and say the verse as the students bring the flashcards up.

Good job! Now I’m going to ask one of you to come up and take one of our flashcards down. Then we’ll say the verse without that flashcard! Do you think we can do it? Of course we can! Ok let’s do it! Call on a student to take down one flashcard then recite the verse together. Help the students to recite the verse after each flashcard is removed. Continue until the flashcards are gone.

You may want to sing the Memory Verse Song instead of saying the verse. When finished, see if anyone can say the verse using the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page.

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

Our memory verse tells us to pray all the time! When we pray, we are talking to God! And we can talk to God anytime, anywhere. He is always there, ready to listen!



Applying God’s Word/Snack

WHAT YOU HEARD IN THE WORD

After thanking God for your snack, review today’s lesson using the Flip Chart.

God wants us to pray to Him every day. When we pray, God will hear us. The types of prayers we can pray are prayers of praise. Those are adoration prayers. Or we can tell God thank you. Those are prayers of thanksgiving. When we sin against God, we can confess our sins to Him and ask for forgiveness. That is called confession. And when we need something from God, we can say a prayer of supplication.

► Pass out the Student Take Home Sheets and remind the children to practice the memory verse this week.

GOD'S WORD IN THE REAL WORLD

We need God every day. We need to pray to God every day. God is the only one who can forgive sins. He is the only one who can give us what we need. God is the only one who deserves our praise and thanksgiving!



Group Prayer Time

- Thank God that we can talk to Him through prayer.
- Praise God that He listens to our prayers.
- Pray that we will want to talk to God more and more each day.

Do you still have more time? Review the past quarters using the Flip Charts, add another coloring sheet, recite and review the current and past memory verses, sing more songs, bring out play dough. Keep the children occupied with intentional, God-centered activities until their parents come to pick them up.

Song Sheet

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16–18

(To the tune of "Are You Sleeping?")

Re-joice always,
(Are you sleeping?)

Pray with-out ceasing,
(Are you sleeping?)

In everything
(Brother John?)

Gi-ive thanks;
(Brother John?)

For this is the will of God
(Morning bells are ringing,)

In Christ Jesus for you.
(Morning bells are ringing.)

1 Thessalonians
(Ding, ding, dong,)

5:16–18
(Ding, ding, dong.)

PRAY TO GOD

(To the tune of "London Bridge")

God wants us to pray to Him,
(London bridge is falling down,)
Point up to God. Make praying hands.

Pray to Him, pray to Him.
(Falling down, falling down.)
Praying hands, then point to God. Repeat.

God wants us to pray to Him,
(London bridge is falling down,)
Point up to God. Make praying hands.

Every da-ay.
(My fair lady!)
Clap, clap, clap.

God wants us to praise His name,
Point up to God. Lift up and shake your hands.

Praise His name, praise His name.
Lift up and shake your hands.

God wants us to praise His name
Point up to God. Lift up and shake your hands.

Every da-ay.
Clap, clap, clap.

God wants us to give Him thanks,
Point up to God. Draw arms to chest, then bring out as if offering a gift.

Give Him thanks, give Him thanks.
Draw arms to chest, then bring out as if offering a gift.
Repeat.

God wants us to give Him thanks,
Point up to God. Draw arms to chest, then bring out as if offering a gift.

Every da-ay.
Clap, clap, clap.

God wants us to say sorry,
Point up to God. Make a fist and move it clockwise over your heart.

Say sorry, say sorry.
Make a fist and move it clockwise over your heart.

God wants us to say sorry,
Point up to God. Make a fist and move it clockwise over your heart.

Every da-ay.
Clap, clap, clap.

God wants us to ask from Him,
Point up to God. Make praying hands.

Ask from Him, ask from Him.
Make praying hands.

God wants us to ask from Him,
Point up to God. Make praying hands.

Every da-ay.
Clap, clap, clap.

Think of fun ways to sing. Get children in a circle holding hands. They can go in one direction and at each verse quickly reverse direction. Put one or more than one child in the middle of the circle. Go around them then move in and back out! Get them into a straight line. Have them follow you around the room.

