CHILDREN'S PRAYER GUIDE







NAME:







PARENTS

We love to tell kids that prayer is just a conversation with God. One definition defines prayer as "talking to God and listening to Him." This definition evokes a conversational attitude where two people are talking and listening to each other.

Our communication with God is not just important in the quiet times we spend with Him, but we should be the outward example of that communication as we lead children to discover how to talk to and listen to God. We believe as children discover a closer relationship with God through prayer, they will grow deeper in their faith and understanding of Him!



DEAR FRIEND,

We want you to think of your very best friend - What do you do with them? Talk to them? Of course! When we want to become friends with someone, we begin talking to them about what is going on in their life...the good and the bad. Jesus wants to be our very best friend. The best way we can get to know Him is to talk to him and we do that through prayer.

The more we learn about prayer, the easier that becomes. The easier it becomes, the more fun it is. Praying and talking with Jesus will become an important part of your day. We hope you will use this prayer journal to make real connections with Jesus through conversations every day. Then, you will truly experience the presence of God, which will change your life forever.

Some great times to pray are:

- Before the day begins
- Before you go to school
- Before you hang out with friends
- Before practice
- Before you play a big game
- Before you go to bed
- When something good or bad happens



THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer is a familiar prayer in Christianity. This prayer is found in two locations in scripture: Matthew 6:9-13 and Luke 11:2-4. The Matthew version is the one that most closely resembles the version prayed in churches. The prayer resembles a traditional Jewish prayer in structure and language: acknowledging God's character, praising, petitioning, and expressing desire for the kingdom of God. We pray this prayer collectively and individually.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.

Amen.





Jesus Teaches Us How To Pray Read Matthew 6:5-13

When we pray, we are talking to God. In these verses, Jesus teaches us how to pray. He tells us not to pray like the hypocrites - people who are more worried about what other people think of them than what God thinks of them. Jesus also tells us not to pray the same words over and over again without thinking about them. Below, put an con the squares next to the statements that describe how we should NOT pray. Put a con the squares that describe how we SHOULD pray.

- I offer to pray in Sunday School because I want my teacher to see that I am a good Christian.
- I offer to pray out loud at church because my heart is sad about Mr. Smith being sick and I want to talk to God about it.
- When my teacher calls on me to pray in class, I hope the others notice how well I can pray.
- Each time I pray, I just say the same words. I don't really have time to stop and think about what I'm saying. I just want to get the prayer over with.
- I enjoy praying and talking to God at night, in the morning, and throughout the day. No one knows that I am praying except God - but He's my best Friend! I don't know what I would do without Him!
- I never offer to pray out loud because the other kids might laugh.

How about you? Do you pray to be noticed by other people - or refuse to pray so other people won't think badly of you? Do you forget to pray? Do you often pray the same words without thinking about them? Or, do you enjoy talking to God? Talk to God about it! He always hears your prayers.



Read John 14:13-14; John 15:16; John 16:26-27

What does it mean to pray "in Jesus' name?" Does it mean that we can ask for anything that we want and God will give it to us when we demand it "in Jesus' name"? No! When we pray "in Jesus' name", we are praying as people who have put our trust in Jesus as our personal Savior and we are asking for something that we already know is God's will for us according to the Bible.

Read 1 John 5:14-15

We can confidently come before God and ask Him for the things which we KNOW are His will for us (according to the Bible) because we know that God promises to give us these requests! Fill in the circles beside the things below that you KNOW are God's will for your life:

O Getting rich
Growing in wisdom
O Showing God's love to others



Praying in Jesus' Name

Paul wrote the letters of Thessalonians to Christians who were suffering greatly because of their faith in Jesus Christ.

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:14-16

In these letters, Paul told the Thessalonians that he was praying for them. I would expect Paul to ask God to stop the suffering that these Christians were going through. But, Paul doesn't pray for that. While Paul encouraged the people and reminded them that their suffering would end in heaven, if not here on this earth, he doesn't pray for their suffering to end immediately. Paul prayed for the Thessalonians "in Jesus name" - asking God for things that Paul KNEW were according to God's will for the Thessalonians and that Paul KNEW God would give them.

Read 1 Thessalonians 3:11-13; 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12; 3:16

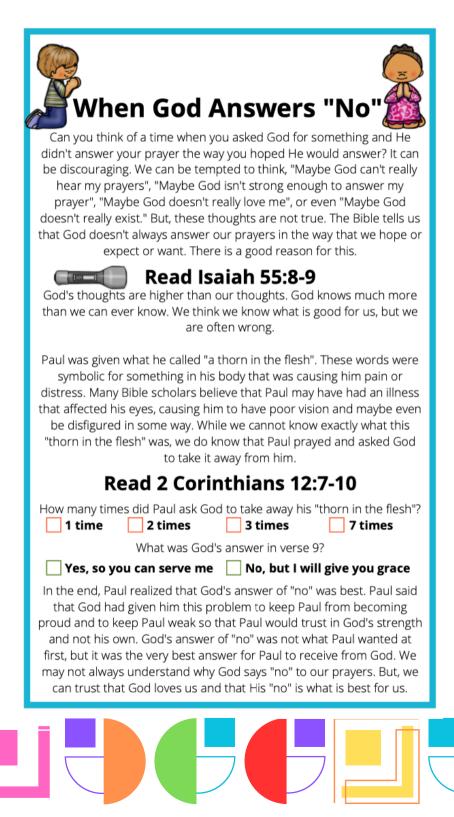
Paul prayed that the Thessalonians would:

- Have love for one another
- Have hearts that are blameless and holy before God
- Fulfill every desire for **goodness** and work of **faith**
- Be counted **worthy** of their **calling** by God.
- Glorify Jesus
- Have **peace** in every circumstance

bargpeace visnylohl plsiltfgb sselemalb canlnvioe ecdabrtrs svocnhhim sworthyfa ccgloyoyo

Find the bold words above in the word search

In the last few days, you have been r and you have read about Jesus' and "in Jesus' name", having put our faith according to the will of God, God pr But, does that mean that we can only God is? If someone in our family is s even if we are not sure if it is God's ask God to help us on a test? Can we need for this month's expenses? C school safely? The a God wants us to talk to	azing promise - that when we pray in Jesus as our Savior and praying omises to give us what we ask for! / pray for what we know the will of sick, can we ask God to heal them, will for them to be healed? Can we e ask God to give us the money we Can we ask God to help us get to answer is "Yes!"
Read Philip	pians 4:4-7
According to verse 6, what sh	ould we be anxious about?
🔘 No money	🔿 School
○ Nothing	🔿 Sickness
According to verse 6, what sh of being anxious or	
🔵 Talk to God	🔿 Try harder 🛛 🎽 🚺
O Do deep breathing exercises	🔿 Learn to Swim
What should we pray about? (Ye	ou may choose more than one!)
Our Fears	O Everything!
What makes Us Happy	What we are thinking about
will always answer "yes", but He s everything that we are feeling, t promise that, when we bring our t Lots of money	thing! He doesn't promise that He still wants us to talk to Him about hinking, and needing. God does requests to Him, He will give us: A New Bible
U Whatever we want	O Peace
 Our Fears What makes Us Happy God invites us to pray about every will always answer "yes", but He severything that we are feeling, to promise that, when we bring our to 	Everything! What we are thinking about thing! He doesn't promise that He still wants us to talk to Him about hinking, and needing. God does requests to Him, He will give us: A New Bible





A Simple Way to Pray

One of the best ways to pray, especially when we are unsure of what to pray for, is to pray through Bible passages. Many Christians use letters that spell a word to help them remember how to do this - ACTS.

Adoration: What do these verses encourage me to adore, worship, or praise God for?

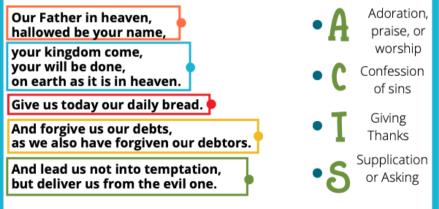
Confession: Do these verses bring sins to my mind that I need to confess?

Thanksgiving: What can I thank God for from these verses?

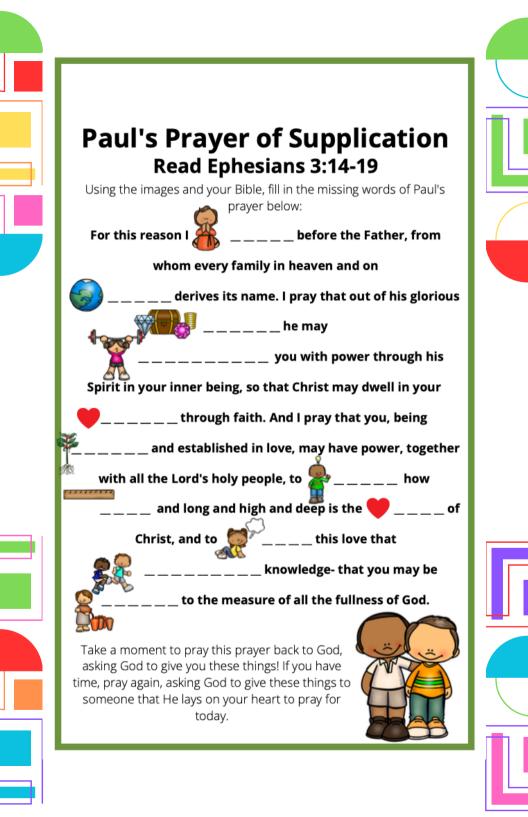
Supplication: Is there anything I need to ask God for from these verses, for myself or for others?

You can use the "ACTS" tool to help you pray through any Bible verse or Bible passage. You won't always be able to answer all of the questions from every Bible passage, but your prayers should have all four of these elements at different times.

Draw a line from each section of Jesus' prayer below to the letter of ACTS that it describes. (Letters can be used more than once and one letter will not be used. If you're not sure, just make your best guess.)



Read Matthew 6:9-13







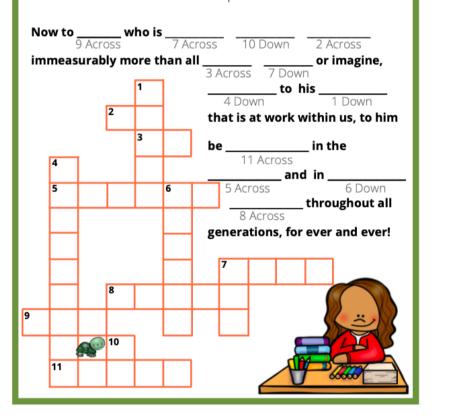
Paul's Prayer of Adoration

Yesterday we looked at some requests Paul made in his prayer for the Ephesians. Today, we will look at how Paul worshiped God in this same prayer.

Read Ephesians 3:14-21

What does Paul do in verse 14?

Finish Paul's prayer below by writing the missing words in the crossword puzzle.

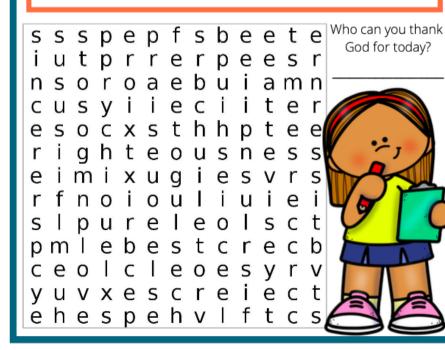


Giving Thanks In today's passage, Paul gives us some practical instructions on how to live as Christians - and his list includes some tips on how to pray. Use the code below to discover Paul's prayer tips. 🖉 장 🗫 🤏 🔗 🐼 ኛ 🥶 ኛ 🚡 🍒 ′ 🐨 🧟 🤻 🚊 without 💮 😤 🔊 💇 🛛 🕵 🍿 🥐 🧟 💬 ...; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. A= 🥷 H= 🎡 N= 😤 T=₫ C= 쭩 l= 😤 **O=**® V=<u></u> D= 🌋 W= = 633~ P= 🎊 Y= E=c\\$7 K=💓 R= 🕰 G= 🥘 S= 🌇 L=@? Z=/ Read Thessalonians 5:12-28 Take a moment to thank God for some of His blessings!

Paul's Prayer of Thanksgiving Read Philippians 1:3-11

Paul had been thrown in prison for sharing the gospel. While there, he thought of the Philippian Christians. Paul thanked God for the way that they readily accepted the Gospel and told others about Jesus. Their faith was an encouragement to Paul, and Paul was quick to tell the Philippians that God would finish the good work that He had started in their hearts. Read Paul's prayer for the Philippians below, then find the **bold words** in the wordsearch.

And this is my prayer: that your **love** may abound **more** and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is **best** and may be **pure** and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the **fruit** of **righteousness** that comes through Jesus Christ—to the **glory** and **praise** of God.



Confessing Our Sins

In the blocks below, cross off every **b**, **c**, **m**, **w**, and **x**. Then, write the remaining letters in order starting from the top left corner, and moving left to right, on the lines below to discover the hidden message.

b	а	m	Ι	Ι	С	S	b	X	
i	X	n	w	n	е	m	d	f	C 3
С	а	С	-		X	S	h	m	
ο	r	b	m	t	g	w	С	Ι	\sim
W	0	r	X	У	G	С	0	d	
For				ha	ve				
and	:				_				of
the of									
Read Romans 3:23 How many of us have sinned?									
0	F	ſ	0	Some	of us	Ō	lt's no		ortant (1)
God from we are w	is rigl God a sorry ve ask	nt and nd ins / for si God t	l we ar stead a inning so give	re wro agree agair us th	ong. In with G ist Hin ie stre	confe God ab n and ngth t	out o disob o turr	, we st our sins eying H n away	nd admitting that op trying to hide s. We tell God that Him. In confession, from our sin. o forgive us!



	niel 6:1-14, 16-23, and 26-28
Finish	the story below in your own words.
	The other officials were jealous of Daniel. They were only only to get rid of
	he officials tricked King Darius into making a law
	hat no one could
	Daniel continued to
	Daniel was thrown into
	od sent an to protect Daniel
fi	rom the lions.
What we want	Vhen the lions' den was opened the next morning,

How about you?

Daniel's Prayer of Confession Read Daniel 9:2-5

Who is praying in this passage?



What kind of prayer is Daniel praying? (Check all that apply.)

Adoration OConfession OThanksgiving OSupplication

When we confess our sins, we come before God and admit that God is right and we are wrong. We stop trying to hide from God and instead agree with God about our sins. We tell God that we are sorry for sinning against Him and disobeying Him. We ask God to give us the strength to turn away from our sin.

In the following prayer, notice how **Daniel admits that God is right** and he and the Israelites have been wrong. Notice how Daniel openly confesses sin instead of trying to hide it from God.

Read Daniel 9:1-19

According to verses 13-14, the Israelites sinned in these four ways:



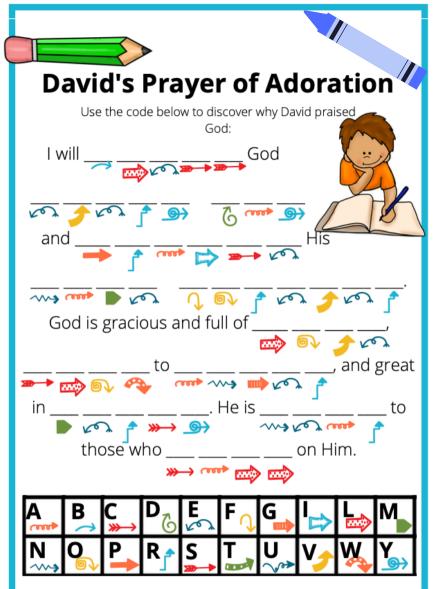
They **did not pray to God and seek His favor**. Instead, they ignored God.

They did not turn away from their iniquities (sins).

They did not **pay attention to understand God's truth**. They did not love God's Word.

They did not obey God's voice.

Have you ever sinned in these ways? If so, pray and confess your sins to God today. Ask God to help you **seek Him** with your whole heart, **turn away from your sins**, **love His truth**, and **obey His voice**.



Read Psalm 145

Take a couple of minutes to worship God, telling Him how much you love and adore Him. Not sure how? Read Psalm 145:1-3 and 8-9 out loud. Where David says "The Lord" or "He", say "You, God" or "You". **Make Psalm 145 into a prayer from your heart to God.**





David's Prayer of Confession

Read Psalm 51:1-17

Without looking back at the Psalm, see if you can unscramble the words below:

Against _____, ____ only, have I sinned

and done what is _____ in Your ____;

so you are _____ in your verdict and

justified when you judge.

_____ in me a _____, O God,

and renew a steadfast _____ within me.

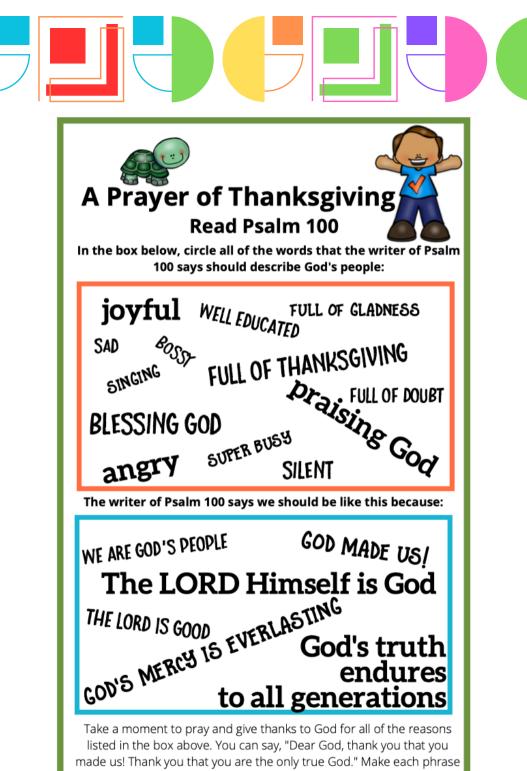
Do not cast me from your presence

or take Your Holy Spirit from me.

If you are struggling with any of these words, look back in Psalm 51!

Take a moment to think about your sins. Then, pray the verse below to God, confessing your sins.

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.



a prayer of thankfulness to God!







A Morning Prayer Read Psalm 92:1-4

When does the Psalmist make a habit of praising God each day?

In the m_ _ _ _ _ _ and at _ _ _ _

Here is a Bible passage that makes a beautiful morning prayer of praise:

Read Lamentations 3:21-26

Using your Bible, finish the verses below:

Because of the Lord's great	we
are not consumed, for his	
never fa	il.

They are new every morning;

In these verses, God tells us of 4 things that are good for us to do:

Recall to mind (purposely think about) God's goodness

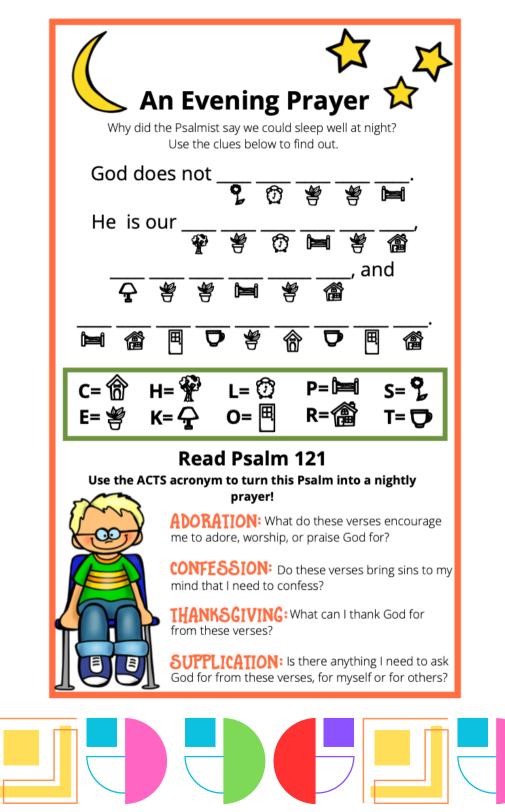
Hope in God

Seek God

Wait quietly for God's salvation



You can pray this prayer of praise every morning. Consider memorizing these verses and thinking of them as soon as you wake up in the morning. Write them out and tape them to your bathroom mirror, then read them as you get ready for the day. You could also put this passage up on the refrigerator and read it while you are eating breakfast each morning. Or, write these verse on a card and read them while you ride to school each day.



A Prayer that Led to Salvation Read Acts 16:25-34

While in Philippi, Paul and Silas were thrown in jail for telling people about God's plan of salvation through Jesus Christ. What were Paul and Silas doing in prison late at night? (vs. 25)

Sleeping

3

5

OTrying to pick the lock Asking for a snack

What did the jailer ask Paul and Silas after the earthquake?

8

Did you feel an earthquake?

Praying and singing hymns to God.

What must I do to be saved?

Why are you still here?

Why did you stop singing?

Read Romans 10:9-10

Use your Bible (or your memory!) to finish the crossword puzzle below.

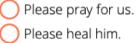
If you declare with your <u>1 Down</u>, "<u>4 Down</u> is <u>6 Down</u>, "and <u>5 Across</u> in your <u>3 Across</u> that <u>7 Across</u> <u>2 Down</u> him from the dead, you will <u>be</u> <u>8 Across</u>. For it is with your <u>1 heart that you believe and are</u> justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. <u>4</u>



A Prayer for Faith Read Mark 9:14-29

In this passage, a father brought his son to Jesus for healing. His son was very sick with an evil spirit that would make his son fall down, foam at the mouth, and become rigid. Sometimes the boy would even fall into water or fire and could have easily died. What does the father ask Jesus in verse 22?

If you can do anything, please help us. Please give us money for a doctor



The father in this story said to Jesus, "If you can do anything, please help us." He wanted Jesus to heal his son - He just wasn't sure if Jesus really could. Jesus told the father that all things were possible to those who believed and had faith in God. What does the father ask Jesus for in verse 24?

If you are struggling to believe in God today, you can pray and ask God to help you! The father's prayer wasn't long and fancy. It was a heart cry of just a few words - "Help my unbelief!"



Read Hebrews 11:6

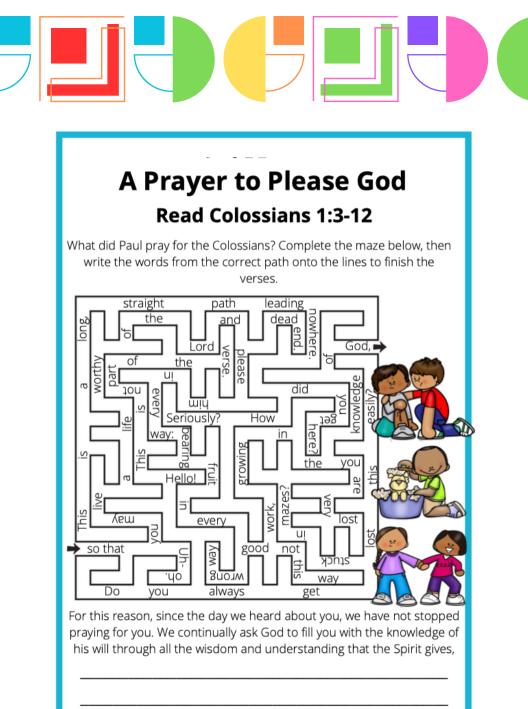
Write the missing words in the verse below:

And without _____ it is impossible to ___

God, because anyone who comes to him must

_____ that he ______ and that he

rewards those who earnestly ______ him.



A King in Trouble

Hezekiah was a King of Judah who feared God. After he had been king 14 years, King Sennacherib of the Assyrians came up to war against Judah and destroy it. The Assyrian General Rabshakeh sent a message to King Hezekiah saying "You're a loser. You think that Egypt will help you - but they won't. You think that God will help you, but He won't. I've already destroyed tons of other countries and their gods - and your God is no different. Now I'm coming for Judah. Why don't you just give up? I'll give you 2,000 horses right now, if you give up. But, I doubt you even have enough riders for 2,000 horses. And, oh, by the way - it was your God who told me to come destroy you." (He lied.)

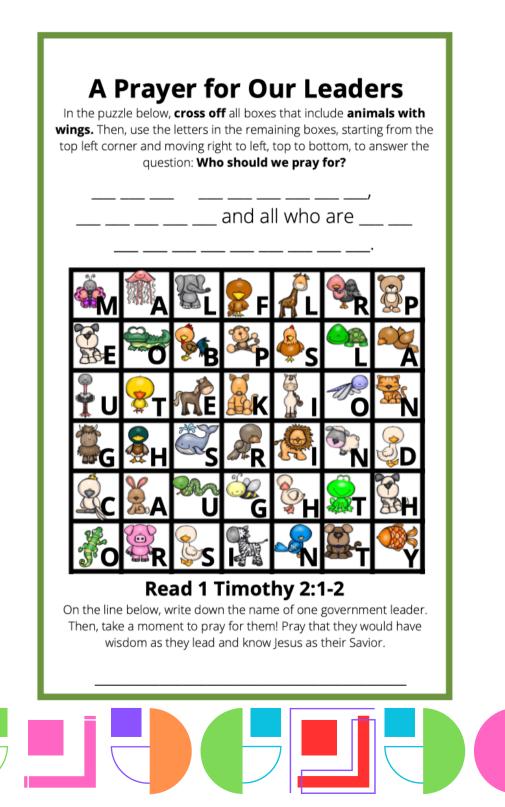
But, God had other plans. When King Hezekiah and the rulers of Judah prayed, God answered. God caused news to reach General Rabshakeh that the Assyrian king needed help in another battle. So, Rabshakeh marched his troops away from Judah, However, as he was leaving, he sent a letter to King Hezekiah saying "We're not finished here. I will be back and, when I come back, we will destroy you!" Talk about a bully!

Read 2 Kings 19:8-19

In the box below, draw a picture of Hezekiah praying before God. Don't forget to include the letter!

Have you ever been in a terrible situation where it doesn't seem like there is a way out? Follow King Hezekiah's example. He literally spread his problems out before God, then worshiped God in spite of his problems. Hezekiah knew that God was WAY bigger than Hezekiah's (very real and very big) problems.

Read 2 Kings 19:20 and 19:32-37



A Prayer for Pastors, Missionaries, and Teachers

It can be hard to share the gospel with people who have never heard it. It can feel awkward or scary. Often, we feel like we don't know what to say. Paul must have felt this way, too - which is why he had some specific prayer requests. Use the code below to find out what Paul asked the people to pray for him and what we can pray for the spiritual teachers in our lives and for ourselves as we share the Gospel.

Pray that they would fearlessly and



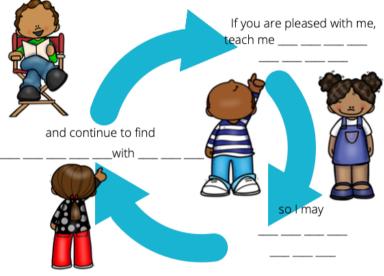
A Prayer for Wisdom Read 1 Kings 3:3-5 What did God say to Solomon?	
"When will you start building the temple?"	
"Ask what you wish me to give you." "That was a lot of burnt offerings."	
What is something you might expect someone to ask for, if they knew God would give it to them?	
Read 1 Kings 3:6-9 What did Solomon ask for? Gold and jewels A long life / health An understanding heart (wisdom) An undivided heart like David	
Read 1 Kings 3:10-14 Was God pleased with Solomon's request?	
Read James 1:5 When we ask God for wisdom, He promises to give it to us! Do you have a specific area in your life where you need God's direction and wisdom today? Write it in the box. Then, take a moment and ask God for wisdom in this area and for all of life.	

A Prayer to Know God

Moses was a great leader, a man who loved God, and a man of prayer. He asked God for something special.

Read Exodus 33:12-14

Using Exodus 33:13, finish the missing words of Moses' prayer below:



About 1,600 years later, another man of prayer named Paul agreed with Moses' prayer. He said that nothing in his life was more important than getting to know God through Jesus Christ His Son.

Read Philippians 3:7-11

Do you want to know God? Follow the example of Moses and Paul and ask God to help you truly know Him. Then, spend time each day reading His Word, praying, and obeying Him. The more you seek Him, the better you will get to know Him. The better you get to know Him, the more you will please Him. The more you please God, the more you will want to seek Him! Start today by asking God to help you know Him better.





Paul's Prayer of Hope 🌉

Imagine receiving a letter from Paul, telling you that he was praying for you! What do you think Paul might pray for you? Write your name on the line below. Then, trace the words written in gray. Read the letter!

Dear

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for other Christians. I always give thanks for you and pray for you! I pray that God would give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of God (so you can know God better!) so that you may <u>know</u>:

> the <u>Hope</u> of 60d's calling (60d has called you - don't lose hope!)

nheritance (you are part

the riches of God's glorious

of God's family and you have an inheritance from God!)

the greatness of God's <u>DOW</u> <u>O</u> at work in us who believe. (God is at work in your heart!)

I know God is able to do these things for you because the power that God is using in your life is the same power God used to raise Jesus Christ, our Savior, from the dead and seat thim on the heavenly throne in authority over all things!
I know things are rough right now in your life, but don't give up! God is at work in you. I'm praying for you! Sincerely, Paul

Read Ephesians 1:15-23

Take a moment to pray this prayer for yourself and for a friend!



What If I Don't Know How to Pray?

I hope you have learned a lot about prayer from the Bible in the last month. I am so thankful that we can cry out to God through prayer!

But, **sometimes prayer is hard.** We are children of God and we can cry out to God as our "Abba! Father!" We have hope of a better life in heaven and we are waiting eagerly for a time when God will wipe every tear from our eyes, when we will no longer struggle with sin, and when God will make all things right.

Right now, though, **we still live in a sinful world.** We continue to struggle with our own sinful hearts. Bad things happen to us. We see bad things happen to the people we love. We get tired, discouraged, and sad. **Sometimes, especially when we are going through times** of suffering, we don't know how to pray.

The Bible has a **HUGE promise** for us when we are going through these hard times.

Read Romans 8:14-30

Here are two promises you can take away from these verses:

When you aren't sure how to pray, the Holy Spirit Himself will intercede (go between you and God), praying for you in exactly the right way. (Romans 8:26)

The Holy Spirit knows what you need, and **He is working to** make all things work together for good to those who love **God.** He is working in our hearts to make us more and more like Jesus Christ, even through the difficult times. (Romans 8:27-29)

Here's one more promise for you to hold on to during the difficult times:

Read Romans 8:38-39

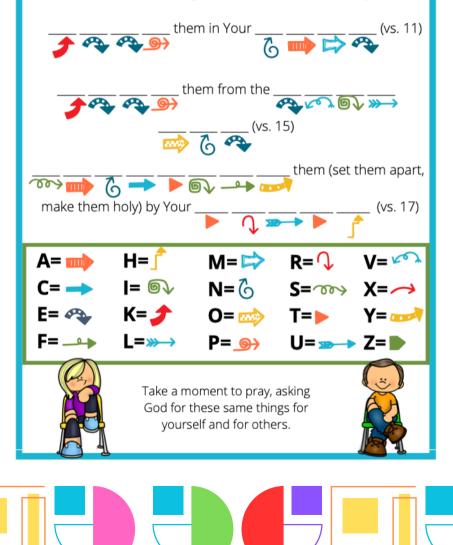
Jesus Prays for _

(Write Your Name)

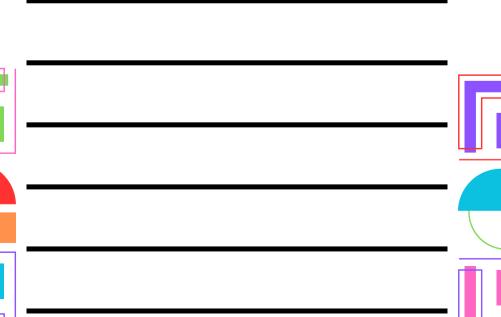
Did you know that the Bible records a prayer that Jesus prayed for YOU? The night before Jesus died, He spent time praying to God the Father. Knowing that He would die on the cross the next day, Jesus prayed for you. Here is His prayer:

Read John 17:1-26

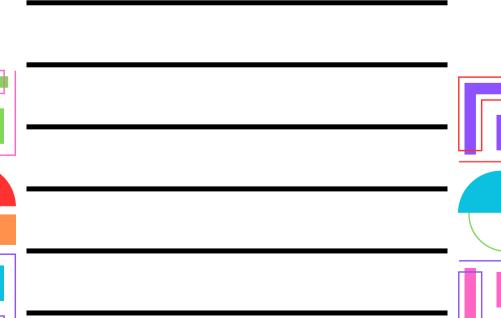
What were three things Jesus asked God to do for you?



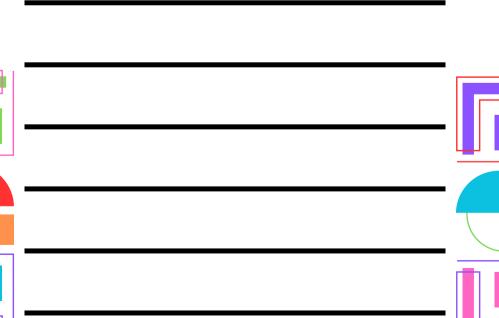




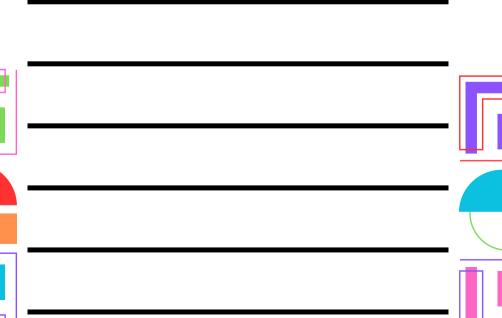














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