

5 min

LG Opener

5 min

Opener Game

What You Need

No supplies needed

HOST: "Hey, everybody! Welcome to [your environment name]. I'm so glad you're here today. Who's ready to have some fun?" (Pause as the kids cheer.)

"Awesome! This month, we're learning about how we need a Game Plan when it comes to getting to know God more! And by following this Game Plan, we'll start growing stronger in faith every day.

"There are four parts of this Game Plan to help you get to know God better—talking about God, praying to God, hearing from God, and living for God. Last week, we learned that we can practice talking about God. This week, we're learning about something new we can practice as part of our Game Plan.

"Today is about how we can: **[Bottom Line] Practice praying to God.** Say that with me!"

KIDS AND HOST: "Practice praying to God."

HOST: "Great job! But here's a question for you. Where do you think you can pray? Shout out some ideas."

Take a few answers.

"Those are awesome answers! And you know what? Every single one of them is right. You can pray to God anywhere. To help us practice this idea, we're going to play a game called 'Pray Anywhere—Four Corners!'"

SLIDE: "Pray Anywhere—Four Corners!"

"Here's how it works. There are four signs in the corners of the room. Each one is a different place where you might pray.

- Corner 1 is Home.
- Corner 2 is School.
- Corner 3 is Church.
- Corner 4 is Play Time.

"When the music plays, you're going to walk around the room. When the music stops, you are to run to one of the four corners. Got it?"

KIDS: "Got it!"

HOST: "Good! Then I'll call out one corner. Everyone in that corner will give me an example of something they could pray about in that place. Ready to try it?"

AUDIO: Play upbeat music as kids move around the room. Stop the music suddenly.

"Freeze! Pick a corner! Quick!"

Let kids run to corners. Then, call one corner. For example, you can say: "School!"

"All right, Corner 2 is School! If you're in Corner 2, let me hear something you could pray about at school or on the bus."

Invite a kid to share something from that corner. Comment enthusiastically!

Continue the game for several rounds until each corner is used and kids have given examples of what they can pray about at that location.

"You guys did awesome! See? You can pray anywhere—at home, at school, at church, when you're playing, and ultimately, anywhere!"

"Prayer is simply talking to God. And you can talk to Him anytime, anywhere, about anything. He is your friend, and He wants you to talk to Him! And the more we talk to God, the stronger our faith will grow."

"Remember, our Bottom Line is: **[Bottom Line]** Practice praying to God. Let's say it together one more time."

KIDS and HOST: **[Bottom Line]** "Practice praying to God."

HOST: "Great job, everybody! The God of the universe wants to hear from you!"

12 min

Worship Option 1 (Amazing Music)

Note: We've suggested worship songs below from Amazing Kids Worship and Orange Kids Music. We've created these songs to be developmentally appropriate for elementary and preteen kids, incorporating simple, direct language, fun dance movements, and upbeat, current arrangements.

We've chosen these specific songs that amplify our teaching content for this month. We recommend that you use these songs as scripted below, or combined with other popular worship songs that your kids know and love. Be sure to share the links to these songs with parents so they can stream them at home or in the car! Songs can be purchased at store.thinkorange.com or for free with APlay.

1 min

Worship Opener

What You Need

No supplies needed

WORSHIP LEADER: "Hey, everyone! I love that we get to worship God together today. Worship is one of the ways we can practice praying to God. When we sing, we're talking to Him and telling Him how much He means to us."

3 min

Every Move I Make | Worship Song

What You Need

No supplies needed

"Our first song is the song we're going to sing all month: 'Every Move I Make.' When you sing the lyrics of this song, you're telling God that is worthy of all honor and praise. Let's stand up, use our voices, and sing it loud!"

3 min

Worthy | Worship Song

What You Need

No supplies needed

"Great job, everyone! Worship isn't just about singing; it's one way we practice praying to God. You can worship Him anywhere, anytime. That's what our Bible Story is about today!"

5 min

Memory Verse

What You Need

No supplies needed

"Before we get into our Bible Story today, let's practice our Memory Verse for this month. It's the part of the Bible, God's truth, that we're going to try to get into our heads and hearts this month. It's from 1 Timothy 4:8. Let's read it together from the screen. I'll read it and then we can say it together!"

SLIDE: Memory Verse

WORSHIP LEADER: *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).*

"Let's say it together!"

KIDS AND WORSHIP LEADER: *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).*

WORSHIP LEADER: "Great job! Let's try it again, a little louder this time."

"Nice! Now let's try it one last time without looking at the screen. See if you can remember the verse *and* the reference."

KIDS AND WORSHIP LEADER: *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).*

WORSHIP LEADER: "Awesome work! Just like athletes practice training their bodies, we can practice training in godliness. And one way we do that is by practicing prayer. That's what our true story from the Bible is about today!"

6 min

Worship Option 2 (Orange Kids Music)

Note: We've suggested worship songs below from Amazing Kids Worship and Orange Kids Music. We've created these songs to be developmentally appropriate for elementary and preteen kids, incorporating simple, direct language, fun dance movements, and upbeat, current arrangements.

We've chosen these specific songs that amplify our teaching content for this month. We recommend that you use these songs as scripted below, or combined with other popular worship songs that your kids know and love. Be sure to share the links to these songs with parents so they can stream them at home or in the car! Songs can be purchased at store.thinkorange.com or for free with APlay.

3 min

Everything to Me | Worship Song

What You Need

No supplies needed

WORSHIP LEADER: "It's time for worship! Stand up on your feet and sing this with me."

3 min

I Run to You | Worship Song

What You Need

No supplies needed

WORSHIP LEADER: "What a great song. Let's sing another!"

24 min

Bible Story (Video)

12 min

StoryLab Bible Story | Video

What You Need

No supplies needed

12 min

So and So Show Bible Story | Video

What You Need

No supplies needed

38 min

Bible Story (Live)

3 min

Introduction

What You Need

No supplies needed

Set the table next to the easel so the kids can see the easel. The Storyteller can place their Bible on the table and read from it. The marker can also be set on the table.

STORYTELLER: "Hi, you guys! I'm so glad that you're here today! This whole month, we're talking about things that can help us grow our friendship with God! It's a Game Plan for getting stronger in our faith every day! There are four parts of this Game Plan to help you get to know God better—talking about God, praying to God, hearing from God, and living for God. Today we're going to look at the second part of that Game Plan! Praying to God!"

"Today, we're going to talk about the 'Perfect Prayer.' And it might not look or sound like what you think it should. It's not a magic formula. It's not a script. It's how God wants us to talk to Him. This 'Perfect Prayer,' how we can talk to God, is in the Bible! Jesus told us about it!"

"But before we dive into those words from Jesus in the Bible, let me tell you something amazing we've been doing this year. We're going through the key stories of the Bible! By the end of the school year, we'll have looked at the key stories of the Bible from cover to cover!"

"Why are we going through the key stories of the Bible? Well, part of the reason God gave us the Bible is so we could know Him! He wants to be our close, close friend. So as we go through the Bible this year, our intention is to learn more about God!"

5 min

GOD'S BIG STORY OPENER (OPTIONAL)

What You Need

No supplies needed

STORYTELLER: "We're going to go through God's Big Story in the Bible together so we can learn about God! (Gesture to slide.)

SLIDE: *God's Big Story*

"Let me catch you up on where we've been in God's Big Story so far!"

"You might remember that, in the beginning, God created everything. He made the world, the animals, people ... everything! God made the first

people for the same reason He made all people—to be His close, close friends. But sadly, the first people God made chose to turn away from Him and sin. God wanted people to be close to Him, but they couldn't anymore. Pain, sickness, and death entered the world too.

"But God didn't want to leave things that way. So He put His rescue plan in motion right from the start!

"God was going to rescue everything through a family! God chose a man named Abraham and promised that his family would bless the whole world. Abraham had a great-grandson named Joseph, who became a leader in Egypt and saved his family—God's people. Over time, God's people grew but were enslaved by a new Pharaoh. 'Help us!' they cried out to God. God freed His people and brought them to the super-nice home He had designed for them, the Promised Land.

"Some time after God's people were settled in the Promised Land, they asked for a king like the other nations around them. God gave them a king, and then many more kings (and one queen) followed. Sadly, after a long time of turning away from Him, God allowed His nation to be split in two—into the northern kingdom of Israel and the southern kingdom of Judah. Prophets spoke for God saying, 'Come back to Me!' But the northern kingdom of Israel was destroyed, and the southern kingdom of Judah was taken captive. Oh no! After years in exile, some of God's people returned to rebuild their homeland, while others stayed in foreign lands.

"During that sad time, God kept sending messages to His people about the Rescuer He had promised long ago. 'God's Rescuer is going to come like this!' the prophets said. But for years and years, nothing happened.

"And then it did! God sent Jesus, the Rescuer we needed, just like He promised! While Jesus was on earth, He showed us who God is because He is God!

"And that's where we are in God's Big Story!"

5 min

SETTING UP THE STORY

What You Need

No supplies needed

STORYTELLER: "We're picking up in our journey through the Bible when Jesus walked and talked and lived on earth! Part of the reason Jesus came to earth is to show us how to be God's friend. He talked to His Father, God, a lot. So let's hear what He wants us all to know about prayer, about talking to God!"

"Before we get started looking at what Jesus taught us about prayer, let me ask you a question: What do you think prayer is? Shout out your ideas."

Let a few kids answer.

"Those are great answers! Some people think prayer has to sound really fancy, like: 'Oh, thy Father, how art Thou? We beseech Thee today.' Or

maybe they think you have to be super-serious. Or that only adults can pray good prayers.

"But here's the truth: Prayer is simply talking to God. And because of what Jesus did on the cross, God is your Friend! So you can talk to Him about anything—your favorite food, something you worry about, or even a decision you need to make. You can talk to God anytime, anywhere, about anything."

5 min

THE "PERFECT PRAYER"

What You Need

No supplies needed

STORYTELLER: "Talking to the God of the universe is a really big deal. And because of that, some people think there's a special way you have to pray for God to listen—almost like there's a secret formula."

"For example, some people think, 'I'll have the perfect prayer if I get on my knees and put my hands together!'

SLIDE: Perfect Prayer

"Or maybe: 'I'll have the perfect prayer if I only pray at dinnertime.'"

SLIDE: Plate of Food

"Or: 'I'll have the perfect prayer if I'm in church and I say it really loudly.'"

SLIDE: Church Building

"Here's the truth: None of those things is bad. But Jesus taught us that prayer isn't about having the perfect words or looking a certain way. Prayer is about being real. It's about being honest. It's about being God's friend. It's simply talking to God—anytime, anywhere."

5 min

TEACHING THE LORD'S PRAYER

What You Need

No supplies needed

STORYTELLER: "One day, Jesus went up on a mountainside to teach His disciples, and a crowd of people joined. He told them something important: You don't have to use fancy words to get God's attention. God is already listening to you because He loves you and you are His friend!"

"Prayer is a real conversation with God. Jesus said this:

Open the Bible to Matthew 6:9-13 (NIV) and read.

"This is how you should pray.

*"Our Father in heaven,
may your name be honored.
May your kingdom come.
May what you want to happen be done
on earth as it is done in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins,
just as we also have forgiven those who sin against us.*

*Keep us from sinning when we are tempted.
Save us from the evil one.'*

"This is also called 'The Lord's Prayer!' Let's spend some time with the Lord's Prayer to help us pray in our own words. As we go through the Lord's Prayer, I'll try to draw some pictures that might help us understand it better! (Reference the easel and paper.) I'm going to do my best at drawing, okay? It might be funny, but God likes fun! So let's have some fun together as we look at 'The Lord's Prayer.'

5 min

THE LORD'S PRAYER

What You Need

No supplies needed

Move over to the easel. On the front page, draw a rectangle, like a nametag, and write the word "God" in the nametag. (As you draw all of the things below, feel free to have fun and interact with the kids as you do! And there's no pressure to draw like an artist—just have fun to the glory of God!)

STORYTELLER: "The very first lines of the prayer Jesus taught us are these:

Open the Bible to Matthew 6:9 (NIV) and read.

*"Our Father in heaven,
may your name be honored."*

"This is a picture of a nametag! One of the things we can do when we pray is honor God's name, or tell Him how great He is. You can pray, 'God, You are awesome!'"

"Let's say that together:

KIDS AND STORYTELLER: "God, You are awesome!"

STORYTELLER: "Great! God is awesome! Let's talk about the next part of the prayer.

Move over to the easel. Turn the page to a new page and draw a crown over planet earth.

"Then Jesus told us to pray this:

Open the Bible to Matthew 6:10 (NIV) and read.

*"May your kingdom come.
May what you want to happen be done
On earth as it is done in heaven."*

"This is a picture of a crown over the planet Earth! I know, I did my best! But maybe this drawing can help us.

"See, God is kind and compassionate and trustworthy and joyful and peaceful. And He is the King of a kingdom. God's kingdom spreads

whenever God's ways are seen! And we want those ways to spread all over the earth—so earth is full of kindness and compassion and truth and joy and peace. So earth is full of all of those good things, just like God's Kingdom is!

"So when we pray, one of the things we can pray is: "God, we want Your Kingdom here!"

"Let's say that together:

KIDS AND STORYTELLER: "God, we want Your Kingdom here!"

STORYTELLER: "Awesome! Let's talk about the next part of the prayer.

Move over to the easel. Turn the page to a new page and draw a picture of a roll of bread.

"Then Jesus told us to pray this:

Open the Bible to Matthew 6:11 (NIV) and read.

"Give us today our daily bread."

"This is a picture of a roll of bread! I know, I did my best again! But let's look at this part of the prayer more closely.

"You see, God wants you to ask for anything you need each day. That can totally include food. We need food. But let's say you're really grumpy that day and you also need something else—you need some joy! Or maybe you need the strength to be honest. Whatever you need that day, you can ask God when you pray.

"So when we pray, one of the things we can pray is: 'God, please give me what I need today!'"

"Let's say that together: 'God, please give me what I need today!'"

KIDS AND STORYTELLER: "God, please give me what I need today!"

STORYTELLER: "Awesome! Let's talk about the next part of the prayer.

Move over to the easel. Turn the page to a new page and draw a picture of a BAND-AID®.

"Then Jesus told us to pray this:

Open the Bible to Matthew 6:12 (NIV) and read.

*"And forgive us our sins,
just as we also have forgiven those who sin against us."*

"This is a picture of a BAND-AID! You see how I drew a BAND-AID? I know, I did my best again! But maybe it can help us as we look at the next part of the prayer more closely.

"You see, when we sin against God, we grieve Him. It makes Him so sad. And when people sin against us, they do something to us that has hurt us. That's why I drew the BAND-AID®. When we do things that grieve God, we need Him to forgive us to mend our friendship. And as He forgives us, we can forgive the people who hurt us too.

"So when we pray, one of the things we can pray is: 'God, help us forgive like You've forgiven us!'"

"Let's say that together: 'God, help us forgive like You've forgiven us!'"

KIDS AND STORYTELLER: "God, help us forgive like You've forgiven us!"

STORYTELLER: "Nice praying! Let's talk about the next part of the prayer.

Move over to the easel. Turn the page to a new page and draw a picture of a lion's face.

"Then Jesus told us to pray this:

Open the Bible to Matthew 6:13 (NIV) and read.

*"Keep us from sinning when we are tempted.
Save us from the evil one."*

"This is a picture of a lion's head. Well, it's my attempt at it! But I think it will help us as we look at this last part of the prayer Jesus taught us to pray.

"You see, that part of the prayer mentions 'the evil one.' That's Satan, our enemy and God's enemy, that wants to hurt God by hurting us. Peter described him as a roaring lion, that's why I drew a lion.

"Satan is our enemy, yes, but he has been defeated. And God is so much stronger and bigger, we don't have to be afraid of Satan. But like a dead wasp that still stings, when Satan tries to hurt us, God will help us anytime we ask! Like the prayer that Jesus taught us says, we can turn to God anytime we're tempted to step out from His ways and disobey.

"So when we pray, one of the things we can pray is: 'God, help us obey Your good ways!'"

"Let's say that together: 'God, help us obey Your good ways!'"

KIDS AND STORYTELLER: "God, help us obey your good ways!"

STORYTELLER: "Great, you guys! You went through the entire prayer Jesus taught us!"

"Let me read the whole thing so you can hear it again:

Open the Bible to Matthew 6:9-13 (NIV) and read.

"This is how you should pray.

*"Our Father in heaven,
may your name be honored.
May your kingdom come.
May what you want to happen be done
on earth as it is done in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins,
just as we also have forgiven those who sin against us.
Keep us from sinning when we are tempted.
Save us from the evil one.'*

5 min

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

What You Need

No supplies needed

STORYTELLER: "What we learned from the prayer Jesus taught us is that we can talk to God about absolutely anything!"

"We can talk to Him about what is happening every day, we can talk to Him about the ways we need His help if we're being tempted, we can ask Him for what we need, or even if what we need is His forgiveness because we've sinned and stepped outside of His ways."

"God is your friend, and He just wants you to talk to Him about anything at any time!"

"You can pray at home, at school, at church, or when you're playing. You can thank God for food, ask Him for help on a test, pray for your family when someone is sick, or ask for forgiveness when you mess up."

"Jesus prayed every day, at any time, about anything, and He showed us we can too. It's not about being perfect, it's about practice—about doing it over, and over, and over again."

"That reminds me of our Bottom Line for today!"

SLIDE: Bottom Line

"Our Bottom Line today is: **[Bottom Line] Practice praying to God.** Say it with me."

Host enters and joins in.

KIDS, STORYTELLER, AND HOST: [Bottom Line] "Practice praying to God."

5 min

GOD'S BIG STORY CLOSER (OPTIONAL)

What You Need

No supplies needed

HOST: "Let's take a look at the progress we made in God's Big Story this week!"

SLIDE: *God's Big Story*

"This week, we're up here in the part of this picture of God's Big Story—the picture that says, 'Jesus' Life.' In our story, we learned how to pray, how to talk to God, straight from Jesus!"

"Jesus is such a gift to us! His home is in Heaven, so He knows how God's kingdom works. He also has a perfect relationship with God the Father, so He knows exactly what He's like. With all of that knowledge and understanding, He left Heaven, came to Earth, and showed us what it's like to live as God's friends on Earth. All because He loves us. Jesus' whole life, He taught us what it looks like to live as God's friend, as a part of His Kingdom. And then Jesus did even more. Jesus gave up His sinless life to pay the price for sins we committed, to break the curse that we had put ourselves under. No wonder God worked for years and years to send us Jesus. Jesus' perfect life continued God's plan to rescue us all!"

"Let's put the next image on our timeline!"

SLIDE: *Week 2 Timeline Image*

If you're making a timeline of printed images on your wall, take this moment to place today's timeline image on the clothesline.

"This week we learned 'The Lord's Prayer' that Jesus taught us to pray!"

8 min

Closing

5 min

WHAT'S OUR PART IN THE STORY?

What You Need

No supplies needed

HOST: "Wow. Today we learned something really important from Jesus. He showed us how to pray. He didn't say you need to use big, fancy words. He didn't say you need to impress other people. He didn't say prayer is only for grown-ups."

"Instead, He gave us a simple model, the Lord's Prayer. In that prayer, Jesus reminded us to honor God, to ask for what God wants to happen on earth, to trust Him for what we need each day, to ask for forgiveness, and to ask for His help when life is hard."

"That means prayer isn't about saying everything just the right way. It's about simply talking to God! It's amazing, but the God of the universe is your friend. He just wants you to talk to Him!"

"You don't need to wait for the perfect place. You can pray anytime, anywhere, about anything."

"If you're worried about a test at school, you can talk to God and ask Him for help. If you're thankful for your mac and cheese, you can thank God, who gives you every good gift. If you need help being kind to a friend, you can ask God, who is the kindest of all, who lives in you through the Holy Spirit, to help you be kind. If you've messed up and need forgiveness, you can talk to God, who is waiting to show you His forgiveness, because He just wants you to be close to Him again. If you're not sure what to do, you can talk to God because He is the wisest and wants to lead you in the best way.

"God wants to hear from you. Every prayer matters to Him.

"So here's my challenge for you this week: **[Bottom Line] practice praying to God.** Try praying at a time you usually don't. Maybe on the bus, maybe when you're playing outside, maybe when you're getting ready for bed.

"It doesn't have to be long or fancy. Just talk to God like you would talk to a friend. Because that's what prayer is, a real conversation with your friend, God."

3 min

PRAYER

What You Need

No supplies needed

HOST: "Let's talk to the God who always wants to hear from us right now. Everyone, bow your heads and close your eyes.

"God, thank You for teaching us how to pray. Thank You that we don't need perfect words or special places to talk to You. We can pray anytime, anywhere, about anything. Help us to make our lives an ongoing conversation with You. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

Dismiss kids to their small groups.