Sma<mark>ll Gr</mark>oup Leader Guide

Today's Suggested Schedule

Greeting & Prayer (3 minutes)

The leader greets the children and asks how they are doing. After a brief time of sharing, the group participates in a short prayer activity to prepare their hearts for the lesson.

Small Group Activity (20 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

Pray & Dismiss (2 minutes)

After small group time, the leader closes in prayer. Then the children are dismissed.



Bible Story

The Lord's Prayer | Matthew 6:9-13

Bottom Line

Practice praying to God.

Monthly Memory Verse

Training thebody 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 NIrV



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Greeting & Prayer



What You Need

- ☐ A Spinning Wheel
- ☐ Prayer Chart

What You Do

Pray for your group before they arrive -> Pray for kids who will visit your group for the first time. Recall a time when God gave you the courage to do something you didn't think you were ready for. Thank God for sending the Holy Spirit to live inside of you and help you take the next step! Ask God to help the kids trust Him when they feel nervous or unsure. Whether it's a big change or something small, pray that kids would know God is with them even when they don't feel ready.

- Choose a child to spin the wheel.
 Each color matches a prayer prompt on the chart.
- After spinning, the child finds the matching prompt, reads it, and prays.
- Let a few more children take turns spinning the wheel and praying.

What You Say

"Prayer is how we talk with God, our loving Father. The Bible tells us to pray without ceasing—talking to Him anytime, anywhere. Whatever you do, begin with prayer. When you do, you can trust that God is in control and working in every situation."

Transition -> Lead your group to the small group activity



ACTIVITY ONE

Fill the Board

Bible Story Review



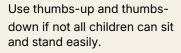
Faith Skills

Hear from God	Pray to God
Talk about God	Live for God

What You Need

- Lord's Prayer
- Large piece of poster board
- Sticky notes in four different colors (e.g., yellow, blue, green, red)
- Marker

Inclusive Pro Tips



What You Do:

- Read the Lord's Prayer together with the kids, then encourage each child to try saying it without looking.
- Before the activity, use a marker to write "OUR PRAYERS" at the top of the poster board.
- Instruct the kids to sit in a circle around the poster board on the floor.
- Give each child a few sticky notes of each color.
- Explain that you're going to fill the board with different kinds of prayers Jesus taught in the Lord's Prayer.
 - Hold up a yellow sticky note and say, "Yellow is for telling God
- how great He is.

 Let's stick our yellow notes on the board as we say, 'God, You are great!'"
- Hold up a blue sticky note and say, "Blue is for asking God for what we need today—like food or maybe courage to tell the truth.
- Let's stick our blue notes on the board." Hold up a green sticky note and say, "Green is for saying sorry when we've messed up and asking God to help us forgive others. Let's add our green notes to the board." Hold up a red sticky note and say, "Red is for asking God to help us make good choices and follow His good ways. Let's add our red notes."

What You Say:

"Look at all of those colors! Each of those colors of sticky notes represents something else Jesus told us we could talk to God about in the prayer He taught us. Great job learning more about the prayer that Jesus taught us to pray.

"Let's remember to [Bottom Line] practice praying to God every day!"

ACTIVITY TWO

Prayer **Stations**





What You Need

- Constructionpaperin four different colors (each labeled with one of the following words: Praise, Kingdom, Need, Forgiveness)
- Wall tape
- Permanent marker

Inclusive Pro Tips



Print "Verse Motions" Activity Pages to support visual learners and readers who want to follow along on their own copies of the motions.

What You Do:

- Tape the four different colored papers to four places around the room.
- Travel to each spot as a group and do the following for
 - o **Praise**: One at a time, tell God one thing you love about Him. Then have a dance party, showing your best dance
 - **Kingdom:** One at a time, share one way that you can make your world look more like God's Kingdom. (Remember, God's Kingdom is where love, joy, peace, and goodness are the way things work. Maybe you can hold the door for someone, or cheer someone up when they're sad.) Then, give everyone a high five, because they're bringing great things into the world.
 - **Need**: Talk to God silently about one thing you need that day. Then, one at a time, act out eating your favorite food. See if everyone else in the group can guess what the food is.
 - Forgiveness: Let's talk to God silently and ask Him to help us forgive someone who hurt us. Then, let's pretend to put BAND-AIDs® on everyone's knees because forgiving someone who hurt us, and letting God handle the payback, is the first step to us getting better.

What You Say:

"That was a great way to pray! Prayer is just talking to God, and you can talk to God about so many different things. We can talk to God about absolutely anything! God is your friend, and He just wants you to talk to Him about anything at any time.

"We followed the prayer Jesus taught us to pray. We talked to God about how great He is, how we want the world to look more like His Kingdom, what we need today, and who we need to forgive. That's a lot of different things that we talked to God about!

"And prayer is something we can get better at when we practice! Let's [Bottom Line] practice praying to God this week."

Pray and



Pray and Dismiss Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God	Pray to God
Talk about God	Live for God

What You Need No supplies needed

Inclusive Pro Tips



Instead of praying silently, give options for the kids to write or doodle to God quietly.

What You Say

"Dear God, thank You for loving us and for listening when we talk to You. Help us to remember to talk to You all of the time, about anything. We want our lives to be an ongoing conversation with You. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

Transition -> As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to share one promise from today's Bible Story that God kept and remind the kids to share that **[Bottom Line]** Jesus is good news for everyone.