

PRETEEN

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

You Say

The Lord's Prayer Matthew 6:9-13

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

How do you pray to God?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Practice praying to God.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"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, NIrV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Commitment—Making a plan and putting it into practice

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Check out our Pinterest page here https://bit.ly/447HSZi for a visual on some of the activities.

SMALL GROUP



SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Just for Fun
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP

35

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

Welcome/Opener Worship Bible Story (Communicator Script) Key Question Prayer

SMALL GROUP

25MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Application Activity: Take a Snapshot Bible Story Review: Bible Story Extension and

Discussion Questions

Memory Verse Activity: Verses to Take with You Prayer Activity: Make it Personal with Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Parent Cue Card (print or email) Devotionals for Kids Parent Cue App



WEEK **MAY 2024** SMALL GROUP **PRETEEN**

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION 15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group



Before kids arrive, take some time to talk with God and settle your heart and mind as you prepare to lead a discussion with your kids about what it looks like to pray and have conversations with God.

1. JUST FOR FUN

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container, balloon

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- Welcome kids as they arrive and invite them to place their offering in the offering container.
- Ask kids to stand and form a circle in your group space.
- Talk with the kids about commitment. Remind them commitment is making a plan and putting it into practice.
 - Invite kids to share things they are committed to.
 - Give examples of different things people can commit to (training for a race, studying for a test, learning how to roller skate, playing an instrument, etc.).
- Inflate a balloon and tie it.
- Explain that you are going to tap the balloon into the air, and the group will need to work together to continue tapping the balloon to stay in the air.
- Each time someone taps the balloon, they should name something that people commit to.
- If someone taps the balloon but cannot think of anything to say, they should sit out for the remainder of the round.
- Continue playing until either the balloon hits the ground, there is no one left standing, or you run out of commitments to mention.



PRETEEN

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION 15 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

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2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: "Tomato Tomato" Activity Page

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite kids to gather in the center of your group space.
- Explain that you will hold up an image of something that has two common ways the word is pronounced. You will

say each pronunciation, assigning each one to a specific side of your group space. Kids should move to the side that represents what they think is the right pronunciation of the word.

- Hold up a picture from the "Tomato Tomato" Activity Page and use the
 phonetic spelling to read each pronunciation then direct kids to move to make
 their choice.
 - NOTE: Adjust pronunciations to match your local dialect.
- Play until you have gone through all the images.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Wasn't it interesting to see everyone's pronunciation choices? Many of you probably felt like the pronunciation you chose was the right one. [Transition] "Did you know that just like there are different ways to say these words, there are also different ways that we can talk to God? There is no one right way to say these words, and there is not just one way to pray to God! Today, we will get some ideas on how to pray in our own unique way!"

Lead your group to the Large Group area.



PRETEEN

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment

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1. TAKE A SNAPSHOT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Commit Skit" Activity Page

WHAT YOU DO:

- Divide the group into four different teams.
- Hand each team a card from the "Commit Skit" Activity

Page.

- Explain each team will read the scenario on their card together. Then, they
 will create a short skit to demonstrate the commitment that is needed in that
 scenario.
 - Tell kids to somehow include prayer in their skit. Remind them that prayer can happen anywhere at any time!
 - Encourage kids to assign everyone on the team a different part to play.
 They can come up with actions and dialogue for each character or assign a narrator to explain.
- Once kids have had time to create their skits, give each team a turn to perform it for the entire group.
- After every team has performed their skit, lead the group in a discussion about how important it is to make a plan and put it into practice. Ask:
 - Why is making a plan so important when it comes to the things we are committed to?
 - What is a plan worth if we aren't willing to put it into practice?
 - How can you make a plan to pray?
 - What's the benefit of putting our plan to pray into practice?
- [Make it Personal] Tell about a time when you committed to praying about something, and share how God answered your prayer.



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MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

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2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION [TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Lord's Prayer" Activity Page, pens or pencils

- Invite kids to sit in a circle.
- Lead a discussion to recap today's Bible Story:
 - What do we call the event that was happening in the story today? (Jesus' Sermon on the Mount)
 - What did Jesus say about who is part of God's Kingdom? (The spiritually needy and humble; Those who ask for help; People who are sad; People who make peace and show mercy)
 - What specific thing did Jesus give instructions for? (How to pray.)
- Put kids in pairs. Hand each pair a "Lord's Prayer" Activity Page and a pen or pencil.
- Explain that kids should work together with their partner to translate portions
 of the Lord's Prayer into their own words, making it more relevant and
 understandable to them.
- When everyone has had a chance to finish their page, bring the group back together.
- Read through each section of the prayer, allowing kids to take turns sharing what they wrote.
- Remind kids that this prayer is not necessarily the exact words to say when
 we pray to God. Instead, it's a guideline that helps us think about the kinds of
 things we can pray about.



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TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

You Say

The Lord's Prayer Matthew 6:9-13



3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- Is there a right way to pray?
- How do you pray to God?
- · When can you pray?
- Is it difficult to make time for prayer? Why or why not?
- Why does prayer take practice?

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MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery

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4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU [HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Four prepared bags with Bibles, prepared index cards; infinity cube, stuffed animal or blanket, first aid bandage or adhesive bandage, hand weight

- Divide the kids into four groups and direct each group to sit together.
- Hand each group one of the prepared bags.
- Explain that each group should first find the index card in their bag then work together to use the Bible to look up the verse on their card. They should choose someone to read the verse out loud so that everyone in their group can hear.
- After reading their verse, direct groups to look at the item that was placed in their bag. They should discuss what the item has to do with the verse they read.
- Once all groups are ready, give each group a chance to read their assigned verse out loud for the entire group, show their item, and share how it relates to their verse.
- After all groups have shared, ask kids the following questions:
 - Were there any of these verses that you found particularly helpful or comforting?
 - If so, why? And how do you feel like that verse can help you?
- Explain that the Bible has so much to say about prayer. Today, we heard about a structure we can use for prayer.
- Point out that these verses everyone looked up either give us more guidance for prayer or show us why it benefits us to spend time in prayer.



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SOCIAL

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GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Prayer Plan" Activity Page, pens or pencils

- Put kids in pairs and encourage them to spread out in your group space with their partner.
- Hand each kid a copy of the "Prayer Plan" Activity Page and a pen or pencil.
- Explain that they will be spending time creating their own prayer plans, which can help guide them to pray in the days ahead.
 - They can work together with their partner to think of ideas for their plan, but each kid should create their own unique plan.
- After kids have finished their prayer plans, give them time to share a prayer request with their partner, if they would like to. Encourage them to take a moment to pray for each other.
 - Kids can fill in their partner's prayer request on their "Prayer Plan" Activity Page.
- Once everyone has prayed, bring the group back together.
- Explain that just like we have discussed how there is no right or wrong way to
 pray, it's also important to remember that prayer can happen by ourselves, as
 well as with others. It's great to have time in our lives where both of those can
 happen.
- Help kids understand their plans should simply be a reminder to help them pray. They can pray anytime! Not only during designated times on their plans.
- Remind kids how with any commitment, it requires making a plan and putting
 it into practice. Prayer is no different! It is a skill that takes planning and
 practice. And we will also benefit from it as a way to grow in our faith.
- Encourage kids to use their prayer plans in the week ahead.



WEEK **MAY 2024** SMALL GROUP PRETEEN

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.

(Choose one or both of these activities.)

1. JUST FOR FUN

Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group

WHAT YOU NEED:

- · Offering container, 1 for each Small Group
- Balloon, 1 for each Small Group

2. OPENING ACTIVITY

Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

WHAT YOU NEED:

• Print "Tomato Tomato" Activity Page on paper and cut apart, one set for each Small Group

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

(Choose as many of these activities as you like.)

1. TAKE A SNAPSHOT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment WHAT YOU NEED:

Print "Commit Skit" Activity Page on paper and cut apart, 1 set for each Small Group

2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION [TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

WHAT YOU NEED:

• Print "Lord's Prayer" Activity Page on paper, one for every two kids

· Pens or pencils, one for every two kids

3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS [TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

WHAT YOU NEED:

· No supplies needed

4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU [HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

Made to Explore: an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Medium-sized plain gift bags with handles, 4 for each Small Group
- Bibles, 4 for each Small Group
- Infinity cube, 1 for each Small Group
- Small stuffed animal or blanket, 1 for each Small Group
- First aid bandage or adhesive bandage, 1 for each Small Group
- Small hand weight, 1 for each Small Group
- Index cards, 4 for each Small Group
- Before group time: Write one of the following verse references on each index card: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, Philippians 4:6, Romans 8:26, and 1 Timothy 4:8.
- Before group time, prepare the bags by placing a Bible and index card in each one. Place the following items in the bag with each index card listed below:
 - Place the infinity cube in the bag with 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18.
 - Place the stuffed animal or blanket in the bag with Philippians 4:6.
 - Place the bandage in the bag with Romans 8:26.
 - Place the hand weight in the bag with 1 Timothy 4:8.

5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal processing and application

WHAT YOU NEED:

Print "Prayer Plan" Activity Page on paper, 1 for each kid



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HOME

GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

• Pens or pencils, 1 for each kid

HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Print on cardstock or email this week's devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource: **Parent Cue app.**