

God is Near – Prayer Lesson



Opening:

At the beginning of the month, we talked about setting a goal for the new year to pray every day. Sometimes one of the hardest parts of prayer is that you can't see who you're talking to. Most of the time when you talk with a friend you can see them or hear them. When you talk to God you know He's there, but you can't see or hear Him.

Often giving yourself something to look at or touch can make prayer easier. What are some things you can look at or touch when you pray? So today you're each going to make your very own set of prayer beads. When you hold the beads, it will remind you that God is near and listening to your prayer.

Craft: Prayer Beads

See the instructions on the last page.

Scripture:

Your prayer beads have several parts. There is a charm on the end to remind you who you are talking to. Then your beads have 3 sections. You can assign each section something you want to pray about. Between each section is a repeat bead. This could be a verse you are working to memorize or a simple sentence like, "Jesus loves me."

Here is one way you can set up your prayer time in 3 parts: praise, pardon, and petition. Let's discuss what each means.

1. Praise: Thank God for your blessings and the things that made you happy today.
Psalm 100
2. Pardon: Say sorry to God for the things you did wrong today. Ask for His help to do better tomorrow and the courage to say sorry to anyone you need to.
Proverbs 17:9

3. Petition: It's ok to ask God for things you want. This could be help with a test, healing for a family member. Don't be afraid to ask God for anything. Just remember He answers with yes, no, or not yet.

1 John 5:14-15

Activity: Bible Drop a Hint

When we talk with each other, we need lots of words before the other person knows what we are talking about. This game will remind us that God knows what we want to say without a lot of clues. The Bible tells us that the Holy Spirit can tell God your prayer even when you use any words.

Prepare: Print the word cards at <https://biblegamescentral.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Bible-Drop-a-Hint-Cards.pdf>. You can also make your own cards with names of objects or characters (similar to what you would use for charades).

How to Play: Appoint one guesser for the round; the people will be clue givers. The guesser stands up front and faces the clue givers.

Distribute the Bible Drop a Hint Cards to the clue givers. On "Go!", the clue givers pick up one card and take turns to give one-word hints for the guesser to guess what is on the card. The clue givers must give their clues one-at-a-time and are not allowed to talk to each other. They are not allowed to use any variation of any word on the card (ex. automobile for car). If any clue giver uses more than one word or uses a variation of any word on the card, that card is discarded, and a new card is given to them.

The guesser is allowed only one guess for each card, or he/she can choose to pass. Play continues until the 2 minutes are up or the word is guessed. Choose a new guesser and play again.

Close in Prayer:

Say a prayer with the kids using the 3 parts of prayer.



God Is Near Prayer Beads

Supplies:



- 3ft of yarn or string
- 22 pony beads
- 3 heart shaped beads (or another shape or different color than the rest)
- Cross charm (or another charm to represent God)
- Tape

Instructions:

1. Wrap a little tape around the ends of the yarn to make it easy to thread.
2. Thread the cross charm onto the center of your yarn.
3. Then thread both ends through one plain bead, then a heart bead.
4. Open the yarn into a “Y” shape. On one half thread 7 plain beads, then a heart bead, then 3 more plain beads.
5. On the other half thread 7 plain beads, then a heart bead, then 4 more plain beads.
6. Tie the ends together and trim excess yarn to finish your prayer beads.

