



## WEEK TWO – MAY 2024 – SECOND/THIRD

**Bible Story:** *You Say (The Lord’s Prayer) | Matthew 6:9-13*

**Bottom Line:** *Practice praying to God*

**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 + the life to come.” – 1 Timothy 4:8*

**Virtue:** *Commitment – Making a plan and putting it into practice*

**Basic Truth:** *I need to make the wise choice*

**Series Overview:** This month, we’ll help kids discover that one of the best plans they can make is to commit to an ongoing relationship with Jesus. We hope they commit to practicing their faith by reading God’s Word, praying to God honestly and consistently, talking about God with others, and living for God in how they show love throughout the everyday.

**Bottom Line: Practice praying to God.** Even if kids have grown up in a home where practicing faith is a priority, they might still think prayer is something they do before they eat dinner or get tucked into bed for the night. Of course, prayer is so much more than that. And, as kids learn about Jesus’ model prayer, we want them to understand that they can pray anytime, anywhere, and about anything—because God is always listening and wants to hear from us. We hope kids will understand more about prayer and find that talking to God can be an important part of growing in their faith.

---

## 9:05 - 9:20 | 11:05 – 11:20 | EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITY

---

### Opening Small Group Activity

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

**What You Need:** Butcher Paper; Marker; Sticky Notes; Writing Utensils

### What You Do:

- Welcome kids by name and greet all of the kids as they enter with a smile.
- Ask them to name things that people practice. Write down a list of their responses along the bottom of a piece of butcher paper.
  - Prompt a variety of specific responses from some of the following categories: sports, dance, instruments, culinary arts, reading, writing, etc.
- Give each kid a few sticky notes.
- Ask them to think about the things on the list that they have practiced lately.
  - If they have practiced that thing, kids can add a sticky note above it.
  - Give kids more sticky notes as needed.
- When complete, ask kids questions about the graph you've created, for example:
  - Which have most kids in our group practiced?
  - Which have most kids in our group not practiced?
  - Which have none of the kids in our group practiced?
  - Which have only some of the kids in our group practiced?
- Add a category to the end of the butcher paper – “other”.
- Ask kids if there is anything else they practice that is not on the list.
- Invite them to illustrate it on a sticky note, share it with the group, and add it to the butcher paper.

### What You Say:

“That was some great practice! Anybody who is training to get better at something has to practice and work hard. They make a commitment to what they're training

for, and they make a plan to improve through practicing! Depending on what they're practicing for, they may need to improve their reaction time, their ability to sing a certain note, or working as a team. *[Transition]* **Let's go hear about something else God wants us to practice every day!"**

---

**9:20 - 9:50 | 11:20 – 11:50 | LARGE GROUP**

---

**Large Group Overview:** In **Matthew 6:9-13** we find Jesus talking about prayer during His Sermon on the Mount. Jesus shared a model for prayer that helps us understand more about how we can talk to God. We can pray with gratitude and honesty, pray for our needs, and ask for forgiveness. It's comforting to know that we can pray while remembering that God knows us and wants to hear from us.

---

**9:50 – 10:10 | 11:50 – 12:10 | SMALL GROUP**

---

**Prayer Share**

**[Talk About God | Bible Story Review]**

*Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing*

**What You Need:** “Prayer Share” Activity Page, “Prayer Share Leader Guide” Activity Page, highlighters, pencils, poster board, markers, and wall tape

**What You Do:**

- Divide the group into five teams.
  - For smaller groups, create 3-4 teams.
- Give each group a “Prayer Share” Activity Page, a highlighter, and a pencil.
  - For smaller groups, give some teams more than one page.
  - Make sure all five pages of the “Prayer Share” Activity Page are given out.

- Instruct each group to work together to read the section of Jesus’ prayer listed on their page and highlight words or phrases that stand out to them.
- Direct each group to rewrite their section in kid-friendly language on the lines of the “Prayer Share” Activity Page.
  - To assist, ask: “What does this section mean to you?”
  - Prompt kids with ideas from the “Prayer Share Leader Guide” Activity Page, as needed.
- As groups finish, give each group a poster board.
- Set out the markers for groups to share.
- Instruct the kids to write out on the poster board the kid-friendly language they came up with for the section of their prayer.
- Encourage kids to decorate their poster board prayers with the markers.
- When teams have finished, bring the entire group back together.
- Invite each team to share their prayer!
- Display the poster boards (lean them somewhere in your group space since they will be needed in Prayer Time).
- Use the “Prayer Share Leader Guide” Activity Page to review the Lord’s Prayer one more time as a group.

### **What You Say:**

*“The Lord’s Prayer is an example of how we can **[Bottom Line]** practice praying to God! Jesus used this prayer to teach His followers how to pray. It helps us know how we can pray too! We can follow this outline, or we can simply talk to God about what’s in our heart or on our mind like we’re talking to a friend. We can tell God what we need when we’re having a tough moment. We can continue to grow in our faith when we practice talking to God. Remember that you can talk to God anytime, anywhere!”*

***[Make It Personal]** (Share when, where, and how you like to talk to God. Maybe you like to talk to God during mealtime and bedtime. Maybe you find quiet moments in the morning when you’re making coffee or traveling. Or perhaps you like to talk to God when you’re feeling worried or sad, which helps you remember that you’re not alone!)*

## **Verse Training**

### **[Hear From God | Memory Verse Activity]**

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

**What You Need:** Prepared “Tiny Bible Training Guide” Activity Page, and crayons or colored pencils

### **What You Do:**

- Invite the kids to sit in a circle with you.
- Make sure each kid has a Bible.
- Together, look up 1 Timothy 4:8 using the Bible Navigation Tips below.
  - ***Finding verses with 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders:*** Guide kids to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like. When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find “1 Timothy” in the list under “New Testament.” When the kids find 1 Timothy, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find 1 Timothy. Help the kids find the page. When they find 1 Timothy, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 4. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 8 in chapter 4.
- Repeat the Bible verse several times together.
- Instruct the kids to close their Bibles and set them behind them, outside of the circle.
- Say one part of 1 Timothy 4:8, then toss the ball to a kid.
- Ask that kid to repeat the part of the verse, then toss the ball back to you.
- Repeat the first part several times with different kids, then move on to the next part of the verse, and so on.
- Continue until all kids have had several chances and made progress towards memorizing the verse.

**What You Say:**

*“Wow! You all did a great job practicing our Memory Verse together. It’s amazing how much we can learn when we keep practicing! Even if we make a mistake, we keep going. The more we practice, the better we get! It’s great to practice memorizing Scripture, just like we **[Bottom Line] practice praying to God**. By filling our minds with God’s Word and talking to God regularly, we can continue to grow in our faith.”*

**Pray + Dismiss**

**[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]**

*Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding + application*

**What You Need:** Poster boards from Prayer Share Activity

**What You Do:**

- Put the poster boards that were created during the Prayer Share Activity at different locations around the room.
- Invite kids to quietly move about the room.
- Instruct the kids to pray to God at each poster board, using the Lord’s Prayer outline.
- Allow kids time to freely talk to God apart from the outline, as well.
- Close your group time in prayer.

**What You Say:**

*“I’m so glad we all had time to talk with God today. Remember, we can talk to God anytime and anywhere! Jesus taught His followers how to pray with the Lord’s Prayer, and sometimes that can be helpful when we’re not sure where to start. But we can always talk to God with any thoughts or feelings we have too! No matter how we talk to God, it’s important that we **[Bottom Line] practice praying to God**. Find some special time this week to make a habit of praying to God! I’m going to close our group time by talking to God right now!”*

*“God, thank You for teaching us how to pray and then listening to every prayer we pray. We are so grateful that You listen to us and that You value what we have to say. Remind us to talk to You continually, like we talk to a friend. We want to be close to You. We love You and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”*

***As adults arrive to pick up, invite the kids to share one part of the Lord’s Prayer and what it means to them in their own words.***