

POINT ➡ WE PRAISE GOD FOR HIS POWER.

Have kids sit in a circle. Open the Bible to Matthew 6, and show kids the words. SAY: **The Bible is God's special book. The Bible tells us about a time Jesus talked to a lot of people on a hill. One thing Jesus talked about was how to pray. We're going to learn the prayer that Jesus taught all those people. It's called the Lord's Prayer. As I say each line, repeat it after me and copy what I do with my hands.** Pause after each line for kids to echo.

PRAY:

Our Father in heaven, *(fold hands to pray)*

May your name be kept holy. *(lift your hands up)*

May your Kingdom come soon. *(beckon with one hand)*

May your will be done on earth *(point one finger down)*

As it is in heaven. *(rotate finger up)*

Give us today the food we need, *(cup your hands)*

And forgive us our sins, *(hold one hand flat with the palm up, and wipe it off with your other hand)*

As we have forgiven those who sin against us. *(hold up five fingers of one hand, and use the index finger of your other hand to tap each finger)*

And don't let us yield to temptation *(hold hand in a fist)*

But rescue us from the evil one. *(clap hands once)*

Amen! *(punch fist in the air)*

ASK: **What's something you want to learn about prayer?**

What are some things you say when you pray?

SAY: **In the first part of the prayer, Jesus praised God. That means he said nice things about him. ➡ WE PRAISE GOD FOR HIS POWER.** just as Jesus did. After he praised God, Jesus asked for the things he needed. Jesus ended his prayer by asking for forgiveness and help to do the right things. Jesus showed us the kinds of things we can talk about when we pray



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Lead children in singing ● “Pray Every Day” (track 4) on the **CD** to the tune of “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star.”

SING:

Don't be anxious; (*shake head “no”*)

Pray every day. (*make praying hands*)

Trust in God; (*point up*)

He'll show you the way! (*point in front of you*)

If you're scared (*shake knees*)

And worried, too, (*put hands on cheeks*)

God will listen; (*point to one ear*)

He loves you! (*cross arms over chest*)

Don't be anxious; (*shake head “no”*)

Pray every day. (*make praying hands*)

Trust in God; (*point up*)

He'll show you the way! (*point in front of you*)

(Repeat from the beginning.)

SAY: Our song said that instead of being anxious, we can pray every day. *Anxious* means we worry about things instead of believing God will help us.

ASK: What are some things you worry about?

What could you say to God about those things?

SAY: When we're worried, it helps to pray about it. It also helps to remember that God is so wonderful and can take care of everything! When we pray, we can tell him that. ➡ **WE PRAISE GOD FOR HIS POWER.**

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Open the Bible to Luke 11, and show kids the words. **SAY: The Bible says that one time when Jesus was praying, his friends asked him to teach them how to pray. Jesus taught them how to pray the Lord's Prayer, just as he taught the crowd of people on the hill.**

It's okay to have questions about how to pray. Even Jesus' friends did, and they were grown-ups! I'm going to ask you some questions about praying.

ASK: Why do you think people sometimes close their eyes when they pray?

Why do you think people sometimes fold their hands when they pray?

Why do you think people sometimes bow their heads when they pray?

SAY: When we pray, these actions can help us to focus on God. People close their eyes and fold

their hands so they aren't looking at or playing with anything.

Now it's your turn to ask questions. What are some questions you have about prayer?

Allow time for kids to ask questions. Do your best to answer them, but it's okay to say, "That's a great question! I'll ask our pastor!" You can also ask other kids if they have any ideas for answers.

SAY: ➡ WE PRAISE GOD FOR HIS POWER. Let's praise him now and ask him to help answer our questions.

PRAY: God, we thank you that you are faithful and powerful. We're so glad we can talk to you. Will you please answer the questions we have about prayer so we can talk to you and praise you even more? In Jesus' name, amen.

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Have kids stand in a circle, and pull out the *Buzz Boing Putty*. SAY: ➡ **WE PRAISE GOD FOR HIS POWER.** We're going to praise him using our *Buzz Boing Putty*. I'm going to flatten the putty and then say something nice about God while I make the putty into a ball. Then I'm going to bounce it to celebrate that God is so wonderful! Whoever catches it gets to have the next turn, until everyone has praised God.

Play until everyone has had a turn with the *Buzz Boing Putty*.

ASK: What makes it fun to praise God?

Why is it important to praise God?

SAY: When we bounced our putty, it came right back up. When we praise God, our praises bounce right up to him in heaven, and he's happy to hear the nice things we say about him. ➡ **WE PRAISE GOD FOR HIS POWER.**

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Have kids line up, and stand at one end of the line. SAY: **Sometimes churches have prayer chains. That's when people tell others from the church about someone who needs prayer. Pretty soon everyone is praying for that person!**

We're going to make our own prayer chain. Link arms with the people next to you. I'm going to pray for [name of child you've linked arms with]. **Then** [name of child] **will pray for the person next to him** [or her], **and we'll go on down the line, praying for the people next to us.**

You can pray anything you want, but if you don't know what to pray, you can say this prayer: God, help the person next to me to love you. Amen.

Have children pass the prayers down the prayer chain. Gently prompt kids who seem shy about praying aloud, but don't force anyone to pray if they are uncomfortable.

When everyone has prayed,

ASK: **What was it like to pray for someone else? Why?**

Who are some people you normally pray for?

What kinds of things do you usually pray about?

SAY: **When we pray like Jesus taught, we know God has the power to answer us. That's why ➡ WE PRAISE GOD FOR HIS POWER.**