

Making it Mine

A Bible study for kids ready to grow a faith of their own.

Month 5 Week 3

PRAYER

Have you ever forgotten all about talking to your parents? How would your best friend feel if every time you were around them you just ignored them and would not talk to them because you were "busy" with other things? How would that affect the relationship?

God is with us ALL THE TIME. How often do you talk to Him? Do you ever forget to, or feel too busy? When we don't talk to God, how does that affect the relationship? ______

Sometimes, we aren't so sure how to pray. What do we pray about? When do we pray? What are we supposed to say? Even the disciples of Jesus asked those questions. When they asked Jesus how to pray, He gave them an example. Read the Lord's prayer from **Matthew 6:9-13**.

What kind of things are we supposed to talk to God about? ____

To help us remember the different aspects of prayer, we can break them down into five categories:

Praise God
Ask God
Thank God
Confess to God
Hear God

To help you remember, just think about going to the prayer "PATCH" to spend time with God!

READ:

Hebrews 6-9

James

Heart graffiti:

"Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe."
Hebrews
12:28

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HEARING GOD - ARE YOU LISTENING?

Sometimes we forget that not only does God want to hear from us, He also wants us to hear from Him. Sometimes in prayer we just need to sit quietly and give Him a chance to speak to our hearts and do His transforming work in us. Sometimes we have to ask Him for understanding, or wisdom about a concern we have, then we need to let — and expect — Him to answer. Sometimes we need to let Him bring into our mind the things that we need to confess of or ask for. Sometimes we don't even know what we need to pray for until He tells us.



When my daughter Abby was four, she came popping into the kitchen eager to share with me some piece of excitement in her life. I continued washing dishes as I listened to her. She talked for a little while, then stopped. She climbed up on the chair next to me, gently took my face in her hands and turned it toward her. The words she said to me then in her sweet little voice came as a strong and needed rebuke and have had a profound impact on every relationship that I have encountered since- including my relationship with God. She said, "Mommy, listen to me with your eyes." All she wanted from me was a few moments of my undivided attention. She wanted me to stop and focus on her, and her alone.

What God really wants is for us to pay attention to Him. He wants us to hear Him.

ARE YOU THANKING & PRAISING?

"Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise." James 5:13b

Did you know that even our singing can be a prayer of praise? Have you ever felt so happy that you can help but burst into song?

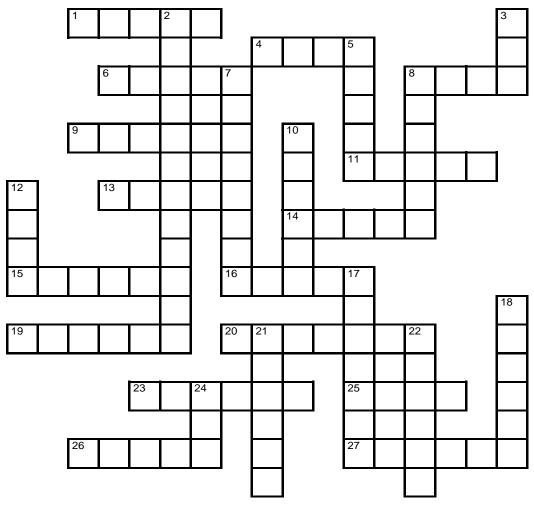
| What do we have to be happy about? | |
|---|--|
| What is the difference be- | 00 1 |
| tween praising God and | |
| thanking Him? | |
| | |
| What is different about | The state of the s |
| talking to God, and having with another person? | g a conversation |
| | |

| ARE YOU ASKING & CONFESS-ING? James 5:13-18 |
|---|
| What are some of the things that James says that we should ask for? |
| What reasons does James 4:2-3 give for not receiving? |
| What additional reason does James 5:16 suggest? |
| Why do we need to pray for each other? |
| Is it easy to ask others to pray for you? |
| |



PUZZLE PAGE

James



Down

- 2. developed by the testing of your faith 1:3
- **3.** what to consider trials 1:2
- **5.** God doesn't do this 1:13
- 7. found wherever there is envy and selfish ambition 3:16
- **8.** there should not be this out of the same mouth as cursing 3:10
- **10.** a man like us 5:17
- 12. this kind of man will fade away 1:11
- **17.** those who have persevered 5:11
- **18.** believe that there is one God 2:19
- 21. faith without this is dead 2:17
- 22. cannot be tamed 3:8
- **24.** do not have because you do not do this 4:2
 - 3 | M i M M 5 W 3

Across

- 1. sing praise when you are this 5:13
- **4.** every good and perfect one is from above 1:17
- **6.** friendship with this is hatred toward God 4:4
- **8.** what to do when in trouble 5:13
- **9.** call them when you are sick 5:14
- **11.** the man who perseveres under this is blessed 1:12
- **13.** do not do it 5:12
- **14.** standing at the door 5:9
- **15.** wisdom that comes from here is pure and peace-loving 3:17
- **16.** considered righteous 2:25
- **19.** when the work of perseverance is done 1:4
- **20.** be this until the Lord's coming 5:7
- **23.** has rotted 5:2
- **25.** confess these to each other 5:16
- **26.** be slow to do this 1:19
- 27. he who _____ is like a wave of the sea 1:6

TIPS for parents and teachers

PRAYER CARDS

NavPress has some neat prayer cards to order, and samples of their PrayKids magazine at their website:

http://www.praykids.com/

They also have some materials to help kids pray for those in other countries at:

http://www.calebproject.org/kids.htm

PATCH CARDS

Make your own prayer card kits for the kids by using those black gum boxes with the five that you have been saving. Print the sheet of labels (page 5) on sticker paper, cut out, and stick them onto the boxes. Then print the next sheet of PATCH cards (page 6) on cardstock. You will need at least one sheet per student for them each to have a complete set. On these the kids will record their prayers, or God's answers. Let them write a prayer request to share and then trade their sharing cards with each other so that everyone has someone else's share card.



PRAYING HANDS

James 5:16 tells us to pray for each other. To make "praying for you" cards, give each student a blank sheet of heavy paper. They will place one hand on one side of the paper and trace it with the other. Then have them fold the sheet in half along the thumb line. When they cut out the hand (not cutting along the fold) they will have a card that looks like praying hands. Using the prayer list in your church bulletin, or other needs the kids know about, make cards the kids can send to let them know they are praying for them. Mail or hand deliver the cards. Make sure the student also writes it down on the appropriate PATCH card so they won't forget to pray!

Were all of the prayers asking prayers, or were some thanking or praising prayers? Which do we do the most of?



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PATCH

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| I will PRAISE God for: | I will ASK God for: |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| I will THANK God for: | I will CONFESS to God: |
| I HEAR God say: | I will SHARE these requests: |