

JULY 19, 2020
JESUS TAUGHT ABOUT PRAYER

GAME TIME

CUP TELEPHONE

Use a push pin or nail to poke holes in the center of the bottoms of the plastic cups. Help kids cut string into approximately 6-foot lengths. Thread the string through the holes in the cups and tie a knot on the inside of the cup so that the string doesn't come loose. Allow pairs of kids to practice holding the cups so the string is taut and whispering or listening into the cups.

SAY: *Those cup phones are like a direct line to your friend. Even if you were whispering, your friend could hear you. In a way, that's like prayer. God can always hear our prayers. We will learn more about that today.*

BIBLE STORY

Luke 11; 18

One of Jesus' disciples said, "Lord, teach us to pray." So Jesus told the disciples, "Pray like this: Father, Your name be honored as holy. We pray that Your kingdom will come. Give us the food we need every day. Forgive our sins like we forgive people who have done wrong to us. And do not let us be tempted."

Then Jesus told the disciples a story. "Imagine one of you goes to a friend at midnight and says, 'Friend, let me borrow some bread. A friend came to visit me, and I don't have anything to offer him.' The friend shouts, 'Go away! My family is in bed. I do not want to get up.' Even though the man does not want to help his friend, he will get up and give his friend bread because he asked boldly."

Jesus told this story to teach about prayer. He said, "Ask, and it will be given to you. Seek, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened to you."

Jesus asked, "When a son asks for a fish, does his father give him a snake instead? Or if the son asks for an egg, does the father give him a scorpion?" Earthly fathers know how to give good gifts to their children. God is an even greater Father! He gives His Spirit to those who ask.

PRAYER ROCKS

Spend time as a family walking outside and gather a handful of small, smooth rocks to use as your canvases. Provide children with markers or paint and encourage them to write prayers on the rocks for their neighbors. Once completed, distribute throughout your neighborhood! You can put them in flower beds, on front porches, or near mailboxes.



Jesus told another story to teach the disciples to pray without giving up. "In a town was a judge who did not care about God or people. A widow went to the judge again and again, asking him to protect her from being mistreated. The judge did not want to help, but he said, 'I will give this widow what she wants so she will stop bothering me.'"

Jesus pointed out that the unjust judge did what was right because the widow did not give up. Jesus asked, "When people cry out to God day and night, will He ignore them? No! He will quickly make things right." Jesus wanted His followers to have faith that doesn't give up.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

Jesus taught us to pray. Because of Jesus, we can pray and ask God for everything we need. God is good and loving, and we can trust Him to care for us and to do what is right.