

January LG K3 | W2



Bible Story

The Lord's Prayer | Matthew 6:9-13

Bottom Line

Practice praying to God.

Monthly 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 and the life to come. | 1 Timothy 4:8 NIV

5 min

LG Opener

5 min

Opener Game

What You Need

No supplies needed

HOST: "Hi, friends. I'm so glad you're here. This month, we're learning about a Game Plan for growing stronger in our friendship with God!

"There are four parts of this Game Plan to help you get to know God better—talking about God, praying to God, hearing from God, and living for God. Last week, we learned that we can practice talking about God.

"This week, we're learning about something that's so important—it's about praying, which is just talking to God! That's our Bottom Line!- **[Bottom Line] Practice praying to God.** Say it with me."

KIDS: **[Bottom Line] "Practice praying to God."**

HOST: "Awesome. Prayer is just talking to God. You don't need fancy words, and you don't have to be a big, serious grown-up to pray—you can pray at 7 years old or at 77 years old! God just wants you to talk to Him since you are His friend! We'll get to more of that soon. But it looks like it's time to play a game!

"Time to play 'The Voice Showdown!'"

SLIDE: "The Voice Showdown!"

"Here's how to play! This side is Team A. (*Point to one side of the room.*) This side is Team B. (*Point to the other side of the room.*) Great!

"I'll need three adult leaders to be our judges. Are there any Small Group Leaders or Worship Leaders who want to judge? You'll be judging to see if the team says the sentence clearly. If you want to be a judge, raise your hand.

Choose three volunteer judges from the adult volunteers who have their hands raised. Invite them to come up on stage.

"These are our judges. Judges, give a wave. They'll listen to see if your team says the sentence together and if the words are clear.

"Each round, there will be a slide with a silly sentence on it. I will read it to you! And I'll also tell you the voice that you'll need to say the silly sentence in!"

"Team A, you'll say the sentence on the slide that I read to you, in the voice that I say! Then Team B will say the same sentence in the same voice. Judges, you'll choose the winner for that round based on the team that says the words together and clearly! And we'll rotate which team goes first each round!"

"Is everybody ready?"

KIDS: "Ready!"

HOST: "Awesome! Let's go!! Here's the first round!"

ROUND 1

SLIDE: "The Voice Showdown: My socks are a little smelly."

HOST: "Team A, say, 'My socks are a little smelly.' In ... a Robot Voice. Go!"

Pause as the kids say the sentence.

HOST: "Team B, Robot Voice. Go!"

Pause as the kids say the sentence.

HOST: "Judges, choose your winner."

Pause while the judges declare the winner.

HOST: "Way to go! Here is round two!"

ROUND 2

SLIDE: "The Voice Showdown: Please pass the purple pancakes."

HOST: "Team B, say, 'Please pass the purple pancakes.' In a ... Giant Voice. Go!"

Pause as the kids say the sentence.

HOST: "Team A, Giant Voice."

Pause as the kids say the sentence.

HOST: "Judges, choose your winner."

Pause while the judges declare the winner.

HOST: "Woohoo! Here is round three!"

ROUND 3

SLIDE: "The Voice Showdown: Tiny turtles take tiny taxis."

HOST: "Team A, say, 'Tiny turtles take tiny taxis.' In a ... Tiny Mouse Voice. Go!"

Pause as the kids say the sentence.

HOST: "Team B, say the sentence in a Tiny Mouse Voice."

Pause as the kids say the sentence.

HOST: "Judges, choose your winner."

6 min

Worship

3 min

Worship | At the Top of My Lungs

What You Need

No supplies needed

Pause while the judges declare the winner.

If time allows, play more rounds in more voices:

SLIDE: "The Voice Showdown: I am... walking... through... pudding." (Slow Motion Voice)

SLIDE: "The Voice Showdown: Greetings, I come for cookies." (Alien Voice)

SLIDE: "The Voice Showdown: Ahoy, I love mac and cheese." (Pirate Voice)

SLIDE: "The Voice Showdown: Laaa, I cleaned my room today." (Opera Singer Voice)

HOST: "That was super-silly. Silly voices are fun for a game, but when we talk to God, we can use our own voice and simple words. He hears us anytime and anywhere. Say our Bottom Line with me. It's **[Bottom Line] practice praying to God.**"

KIDS AND HOST: **[Bottom Line] "Practice praying to God."**

HOST: "Great job, teams. Give your judges a big wave. That was so fun!"

WORSHIP LEADER:

"Hey, everyone! You did an awesome job jumping in during that game. I love how engaged you are — and that's exactly the kind of energy we bring into worship.

When we worship, we're not just singing songs. We're celebrating who God is and thanking Him for how much He loves us. Sometimes worship is quiet and thoughtful, and sometimes it's loud and full of excitement. Our first song today is one of those loud ones. It reminds us that God is worth praising with everything we've got — even at the top of our lungs! So let's stand up, get ready, and worship together!"

WORSHIP LEADER:

"That was awesome! You guys brought so much energy — great job worshipping together.

Now, let's take a moment to think about something important. Every day, we hear messages telling us who we are or who we should be. Sometimes those messages can be confusing or even hurtful. But God tells us the truth about who we are. He says we are loved. He says we belong to Him. He says we are chosen and forgiven because of Jesus.

Our next song reminds us that what God says about us matters more than anything else. As we sing, think about who God says you are and how much He loves you. Let's focus our hearts and worship together."

3 min

Worship | Who You Say I Am

What You Need

No supplies needed

38 min

Bible Story (Live)

3 min

Introduction

What You Need

No supplies needed

5 min

GOD'S BIG STORY OPENER (OPTIONAL)

What You Need

No supplies needed

WORSHIP LEADER:

"Great job, everyone. Thank you for worshiping God with your whole hearts today.

You can go ahead and take a seat, and let's get ready to hear our true story from the Bible."

Make sure the table is set on stage so the Storyteller can place their Bible on it and read from it. Set the backpack filled with the props on the table.

STORYTELLER: "Yay! I'm so excited that you guys are here today! We're going to learn about something so important when it comes to our relationship with God—talking to Him! We're going to learn about prayer today, straight from Jesus!

"But before we get into Jesus' words about prayer in the Bible, let me tell you about something awesome we're doing this year! We're learning the key stories about the Bible!

"You see, God gave us the Bible so we can know who He is. So we're going through the story in the Bible so we can learn about God!

STORYTELLER: "We're going to go through God's Big Story in the Bible together so we can learn about God! (*Gesture to slide.*)

SLIDE: God's Big Story

"Let me catch you up on where we've been in God's Big Story so far!

"You might remember that, in the beginning, God created everything. He made the world, the animals, people ... everything! God made the first people for the same reason He made all people—to be His close, close friends. But sadly, the first people God made chose to turn away from Him and sin. God wanted people to be close to Him, but they couldn't anymore. Pain, sickness, and death entered the world too.

"But God didn't want to leave things that way. So He put His rescue plan in motion right from the start!

"God was going to rescue everything through a family! God chose a man named Abraham and promised that his family would bless the whole world. Abraham had a great-grandson named Joseph, who became a leader in Egypt and saved his family—God's people. Over time, God's people grew but were enslaved by a new Pharaoh. 'Help us!' they cried out to God. God freed His people and brought them to the super-nice home He had designed for them, the Promised Land.

5 min

SETTING UP THE STORY

What You Need

No supplies needed

"Some time after God's people were settled in the Promised Land, they asked for a king like the other nations around them. God gave them a king, and then many more kings (and one queen) followed. Sadly, after a long time of turning away from Him, God allowed His nation to be split in two—into the northern kingdom of Israel and the southern kingdom of Judah. Prophets spoke for God saying, 'Come back to Me!' But the northern kingdom of Israel was destroyed, and the southern kingdom of Judah was taken captive. Oh no! After years in exile, some of God's people returned to rebuild their homeland, while others stayed in foreign lands.

"During that sad time, God kept sending messages to His people about the Rescuer He had promised long ago. 'God's Rescuer is going to come like this!' the prophets said. But for years and years, nothing happened.

"And then it did! God sent Jesus, the Rescuer we needed, just like He promised! While Jesus was on earth, He showed us who God is because He is God!

"And that's where we are in God's Big Story!"

STORYTELLER: "We're picking up in our journey through the Bible when Jesus walked and talked and lived on earth! Part of the reason Jesus came to earth is to show us how to be God's friend. He talked to His Father, God, a lot. So let's hear what He wants us all to know about prayer, about talking to God!

"Before we get started looking at what Jesus taught us about prayer, let's talk about it for a bit."

"Some people think prayer has to sound fancy. But we don't pray to show off. God wants to hear from you—the real you! You can talk to Him with your real words."

"Just like you talk to your best friend, you can talk to God anytime and anywhere. Prayer isn't for other people to watch. Prayer is talking to God. And just like we practice anything, we can **[Bottom Line] Practice praying to God**. Jesus showed us how to pray with a simple prayer called 'The Lord's Prayer.' Let's learn from Jesus today!

Hold up the backpack.

"In this backpack are clues to the simple prayer Jesus taught. We'll pull them out as we read. This is the prayer that Jesus taught:

Open the Bible to Matthew 6:9-13

(NirV) and read.

*"Our Father in heaven,
may your name be honored.
May your kingdom come.
May what you want to happen be done
on earth as it is done in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins,
just as we also have forgiven those who sin against us.*

5 min

REAL PRAYER, REAL FATHER

What You Need

No supplies needed

5 min

EVERYDAY NEEDS AND NEW HEARTS

*Keep us from sinning when we are tempted.
Save us from the evil one."*

STORYTELLER: "First, Jesus said we can call God 'Our Father.' That means God loves us and wants us close. The God of the universe wants us to call Him Father!"

Pull out the nametag with "God" written on it.

"Let me read the next part of the prayer.

Open your Bible to Matthew 6:9 (NirV) and read.

"May your name be honored."

"One of the things we can do when we pray is honor God's name, or tell Him how great He is.

"Let's do that! We can pray: 'Father God, You are amazing!'

"Now, let's all tell God that together."

KIDS AND STORYTELLER: "Father God, You are amazing!"

STORYTELLER: "Awesome! Let me tell you about the next part of the prayer.

Pull out the toy crown.

Open your Bible to Matthew 6:10 (NirV) and read.

"May your kingdom come.

*May what you want to happen be done
On earth as it is done in heaven."*

"God is a King of a Kingdom. His Kingdom is a kingdom of good stuff—full of love, joy, peace, kindness, justice, and goodness! And we want all of that good stuff on earth too! When we are loving, joyful, kind, and truthful—when we act like God does—we make the world look more like God's Kingdom. And we can ask God to help make that happen. We can pray: "King God, bring Your Kingdom here!"

"Let's all pray that together."

KIDS AND STORYTELLER: "King God, bring Your Kingdom here!"

STORYTELLER: "Great praying! Let me tell you about the next part of the prayer.

STORYTELLER: "Jesus taught us to ask God for what we need each day."

Pull out the roll of bread.

What You Need

No supplies needed

5 min

HELP AND PROTECTION**What You Need**

No supplies needed

Open your Bible to Matthew 6:14 (NIRV) and read.

"Give us today our daily bread."

"We can ask God for every single thing we need each day! God cares about lunches, shoes that fit, and help on a busy day."

"But you know what else we might need that day? Well, if we're grumpy, we might need to ask God for joy! Or if we need help being honest, we can ask God to help us tell the truth, even if it might result in some not-so-great consequences for us.

"So we can pray for whatever we need that day.

"Why don't you take a minute and think of something you need right now. *(Give kids some time to think.)*

"Now, I want you to whisper to God one thing you need today."

Give time for kids to whisper a prayer.

STORYTELLER: "Amazing, you guys. The God of the universe just heard you. Let me tell you about the next part of the prayer Jesus shared.

Pull out the foam heart and large BAND-AID®.

Open the Bible to Matthew 6:12 (NIRV) and read.

*"And forgive us our sins,
just as we also have forgiven those who sin against us."*

"We've all done things that make God sad, and we need Him to forgive us so it mends our friendship with Him. And since He forgives us, we can forgive the people who hurt us too.

"Let's add that to our prayer. Everyone, press your hand over your heart and say, 'Thank You for forgiving me.'"

KIDS: "Thank You for forgiving me."

STORYTELLER: "Then hold your hand out open to God and say, 'Help me forgive.'"

KIDS: "Help me forgive."

STORYTELLER: "Beautiful, you guys. We really can talk to God about anything. Let's look at that last part of 'The Lord's Prayer' now.

STORYTELLER:

Pull out the stuffed toy lion.

Open the Bible to Matthew 6:13 (NIRV) and read.

"Keep us from sinning when we are tempted."

Save us from the evil one."

"This part of the prayer mentions 'the evil one.' That's Satan, our enemy and God's enemy, that wants to hurt God by hurting us. Peter described him as a roaring lion, that's why I packed the stuffed lion.

"Satan is our enemy, yes, but he has been defeated. And God is so much stronger and bigger, we don't have to be afraid of Satan. But like a dead wasp that still stings, when Satan tries to hurt us, God will help us anytime we ask! And Satan tries to hurt God by pulling us away from God. Like the prayer that Jesus taught us says, we can turn to God anytime we're tempted to step out from His ways and disobey.

"So when we pray, one of the things we can pray is: 'God, help us obey Your good ways.'"

"Let's say that together: 'God, help us obey Your good ways.'"

KIDS AND STORYTELLER: "God, help us obey Your good ways."

STORYTELLER: "Great, you guys! You went through the entire prayer Jesus taught us!"

"Let me read the whole thing so you can hear it again:

Open the Bible to Matthew 6:9-13 (NIRV) and read.

*"Our Father in heaven,
may your name be honored.
May your kingdom come.
May what you want to happen be done
on earth as it is done in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins,
just as we also have forgiven those who sin against us.
Keep us from sinning when we are tempted.
Save us from the evil one.'"*

STORYTELLER: "We really can talk to God about anything! We can honor Him, ask for His good ways to spread on Earth, ask for what we need, receive forgiveness and forgive others, and ask for help to choose what's right.

"We don't need fancy words; we can just talk to God. Let's practice our Bottom Line.

SLIDE: Bottom Line

"[Bottom Line] Practice praying to God. Say it with me."

Host enters and joins in.

KIDS, STORYTELLER, AND HOST: *[Bottom Line]* "Practice praying to God."

5 min

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

What You Need

No supplies needed

5 min

GOD'S BIG STORY CLOSER (OPTIONAL)

What You Need

No supplies needed

HOST: "Let's take a look at the progress we made in God's Big Story this week!"

SLIDE: God's Big Story

"This week, we're up here in the part of this picture of God's Big Story—the picture that says, 'Jesus' Life.' In our story, we learned how to pray, how to talk to God, straight from Jesus!"

"Jesus is such a gift to us! His home is in Heaven, so He knows how God's kingdom works. He also has a perfect relationship with God the Father, so He knows exactly what God is like. With all of that knowledge and understanding, He left Heaven, came to Earth, and showed us what it's like to live for God here on Earth—all because He loves us. Jesus' whole life, He taught us what it looks like to live as a part of His Kingdom. And then Jesus did even more. Jesus gave up His sinless life to pay the price for sins we committed, to break the curse that we had put ourselves under. No wonder God worked for years and years to send us Jesus. Jesus' perfect life continued God's plan to rescue us all!"

"Let's put the next image on our timeline!"

SLIDE: Week 2 Timeline Image

If you're making a timeline of printed images on your wall, take this moment to place today's timeline image on the clothesline.

"This week we learned 'The Lord's Prayer' that Jesus taught us to pray!"

8 min

Closing

5 min

WHAT'S OUR PART IN THE STORY?

What You Need

No supplies needed

HOST: "Wow. This week, we learned about 'The Lord's Prayer'! Jesus showed us that we don't have to use fancy words to talk to God. We can pray anywhere, anytime, about anything.

"We can practice praying to God using simple words. Try this with me. I'll say a line of our prayer first, and you can say it after me. Bow your heads and close your eyes."

HOST: "Father God, You are so amazing."

KIDS: "Father God, You are so amazing."

HOST: "We want Your Kingdom here."

KIDS: "We want Your Kingdom here."

HOST: "Please give us what we need today."

KIDS: "Please give us what we need today."

HOST: "Help us forgive like You've forgiven us."

KIDS: "Help us forgive like You've forgiven us."

3 min

PRAYER**What You Need**

No supplies needed

HOST: "Help us obey Your good ways."**KIDS:** "Help us obey Your good ways."**HOST:** "Thank You for loving us."**KIDS:** "Thank You for loving us."**HOST:** "We love You too."**KIDS:** "We love You too."**HOST:** "Amen."**KIDS:** "Amen."

HOST: "Jesus praised God's name. He asked for God's ways to happen. He asked for what He needed. He asked for forgiveness and help to do what's right. You can do that too! Anytime! You can do that at breakfast, on the way to school, before bed, or any time your heart wants to talk to God."

"This week, when you feel something happy, say, 'Thank You, God.' When something is hard, say, 'Help me, God.' When you mess up, say, 'I'm sorry, God.' When you remember who He is, say, 'You are amazing, God.' That's practicing praying to God, and that helps our relationship with God grow stronger!"

STORYTELLER or HOST: "Let's talk to the God who wants to hear from us all of the time. Everyone, bow your heads and close your eyes."

"God, thank You for teaching us how to pray. Thank You that we don't need perfect words or special places to talk to You. We can pray anytime, anywhere, about anything. Help us to make our lives an ongoing conversation with You. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

Dismiss kids to their small groups.