

God Understands Me

PRESCHOOL LESSON PLAN

Theme: God hears, understands, and answers our prayers.

Scripture: Romans 8:28

Memory Verse: God works for the good of those who love Him. - Romans 8:28

The Children's Sermon

Today I want to talk to you about prayer. Sometimes when we pray we might think that we said something wrong or that it did not make sense or maybe we could have done a better job, but I want to tell you something. You can't pray in a wrong or incorrect way. In Romans 8:27 it says that "The Spirit intercedes for the Saints in accordance with God's will." Those are a few big words to say that the Holy Spirit hears whatever you say and understands and will make sure that God's will will be carried out. If you make a mistake, or don't pray the same way as someone else it is ok, because The Holy Spirit understands you.

We even see in the passage that the grown-ups will be hearing that there was a man who could not walk and he was asking for money to help him out. In Acts 3:6 Peter replied to him and said, "Silver or Gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." And the man walked.

This man was asking for help with money, but God answered him in a way that he never expected. God knew what he really needed and gave it to him.

Today I want to encourage you to pray, don't be shy, do your best and come to God because he loves to hear from you, you may not consider your prayer to be perfect, but God knows exactly what you need, so ask, pray, and he will understand.

Now, let's talk more about how amazing prayer is. Prayer is like talking to your best friend. You can tell God anything - your secrets, your wishes, and even the things that make you sad. And guess what? God listens to every single word. It's like having a superpower because when we pray, we connect with God, and that's really special.

The Holy Spirit helps us when we pray. Think of the Holy Spirit as a helper who makes sure our words reach God, even if we stumble or can't find the right words. It's like when you're trying to tell a story, and you can't remember all the parts, but your friend helps you fill in the blanks. That's what the Holy Spirit does for us.

Remember, God's will is like a perfect plan for us. Sometimes we ask for things, and we don't get exactly what we asked for, but that's because God has something even better in mind. Just like in the story from Acts 3:1-10, the man wanted money, but instead, he got something much more amazing - he was able to walk!

It's important to know that God always listens and the Holy Spirit is always there to help. Even when we're not praying, God is taking care of us, making sure everything works out the best way possible. Romans 8:28 tells us that "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." That means even when things don't go the way we want, God is still looking out for us.

Praying doesn't have to be hard or complicated. You can pray anywhere, anytime. You don't need fancy words. You can pray when you're walking to school, before you eat, or even as you're getting ready for bed. God is always listening, ready to hear what you have to say.

And remember, when you pray, you're never alone. The Holy Spirit is right there with you, helping you talk to God. It's like having a conversation with your best friend who always understands you.

Sometimes, you might not know what to pray for, and that's okay too. You can simply tell God, "I'm not sure what to say, but I want to talk to you." And that's a beautiful prayer because it shows that you trust God and want to be close to Him.

Prayer can also be thanking God for the good things in your life. It's like saying "thank you" to a friend who gave you a gift. You can thank God for your family, your friends, the food you eat, and so much more. Being thankful is a big part of prayer too.

So, let's remember the important things about prayer: You can't do it wrong, the Holy Spirit helps you, it's about talking to God like a friend, and it's okay to tell God anything. God's will is the best plan for us, and even when things are tough, God is working to make things good for us.

Next time you pray, remember the story from Acts 3:1-10. Just like Peter helped the man walk, God can do amazing things in your life. Your prayers are powerful, and they connect you to God in a special way. So, keep praying, keep talking to God, and always remember how much He loves you.

Prayer is a gift, and it's something we can do every day. Let's use this gift to talk to God, thank Him, and trust in His plan for us. Remember, no matter what, God is listening, the Holy Spirit is helping, and God's will is always the best way.

Bible Memory Verse

God works for the good of those who love Him. – Romans 8:28

You Will Need:

- Colorful construction paper
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Stickers or markers

Get Ready:

- Cut the construction paper into large, simple puzzle piece shapes ahead of time, one for each child plus a few extra.
- Write one word of the memory verse on each puzzle piece.

Do This:

1. Mix up the puzzle pieces and spread them out on a table. Invite the children to find the pieces and work together to assemble the puzzle. This will help them see how God pieces together good things in our lives.
2. Once the puzzle is complete, read the verse aloud together. Encourage the children to say it with you, pointing to each word as you say it.
3. Let the children decorate the border of the puzzle with stickers or markers as a way to celebrate that God hears, understands, and answers our prayers. This also gives them a visual reminder of the verse to take home.

Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- A simple toy telephone or paper cups with string
- Colorful sticky notes
- Markers or crayons

Get Ready:

- Set up a small "prayer corner" in your classroom with the toy telephone or paper cups with string.
- Write simple prayer prompts on the sticky notes and place them around the prayer corner.

Do this:

1. Begin by explaining that God always listens to us, just like how we listen when someone calls us on the phone. Show the toy telephone or paper cups with string.
2. Invite each child to pick a sticky note from the prayer corner. Help them read the prayer prompt (e.g., "Thank God for your family," "Ask God to help a friend feel better").
3. Encourage the children to "call" God using the toy telephone or paper cups with string, and say their prayer based on the prompt they chose. Remind them that God hears, understands, and answers our prayers, just like Romans 8:28 says.

Snack Activity: Prayer Pretzels

You'll Need:

- Small pretzel twists
- White chocolate chips
- Sprinkles (optional)
- Wax paper
- Microwave-safe bowl
- Spoon

Get Ready: Lay out a piece of wax paper on a flat surface.

Do this:

1. Explain to the children that just like the pretzel twists, sometimes our lives can feel a bit twisted or confusing. But God hears our prayers, understands us, and answers in the best way possible, just like Romans 8:28 says.
2. Melt the white chocolate chips in the microwave-safe bowl. Heat for 30 seconds, stir, and repeat until fully melted. Supervise the children closely during this step or handle it yourself to ensure safety.
3. Dip half of each pretzel in the melted white chocolate, then lay them on the wax paper. This represents God's purity and goodness covering our lives when we pray to Him.
4. If desired, sprinkle some colorful sprinkles on the white chocolate before it hardens. The sprinkles can represent our prayers - different colors and shapes, but all heard by God.
5. Allow the chocolate to harden, then share the pretzels with the children as a snack, reminding them that God always hears, understands, and answers our prayers.

Game Activity: Prayer Path

You'll Need:

- Sidewalk chalk
- Small stones or beanbags
- Pictures of simple needs (e.g., a friend, healing, help with fears)

Get Ready: Draw a simple path with the sidewalk chalk, making large squares like a hopscotch grid. In each square, place a picture of a simple need.

Do this:

1. Explain to the children that God hears, understands, and answers our prayers, just like Romans 8:28 says. Tell them they will walk the Prayer Path to learn how God cares for us.
2. Have the children stand at the start of the path. They will toss a stone or beanbag to choose a square.
3. When a child reaches a square, they pick up the picture and say a simple prayer related to the need on the picture. For example, if the picture is of two friends, they might say, 'God, please help me to be a good friend.' Continue until all children have had a turn and all prayers are said.

Craft Activity: God's Listening Ears

You'll Need:

- Construction paper (various colors)
- Safety scissors
- Glue sticks
- Markers or crayons

- Stickers (optional)

Get Ready: Pre-cut construction paper into large ear shapes for younger children. Older children (4-5 years) can try cutting their own with supervision.

Do this:

1. Have each child choose two ear shapes and decorate them with markers, crayons, or stickers to make them colorful. Explain that these represent God's ears, always ready to listen to our prayers.

2. On one ear, help the children write or draw something they want to talk to God about. For non-writers, adults can write for them based on the child's explanation or use symbols.

3. Glue the ears to a piece of construction paper to create a listening poster.

Encourage children to say a simple prayer, talking to God about what they wrote or drew. Conclude by affirming that God hears, understands, and answers our prayers, just like Romans 8:28 tells us.

Prayer Activity: God's Listening Ears

You'll Need:

- Construction paper
- Markers or crayons
- Stickers (optional)

Get Ready: Cut the construction paper into large ear shapes, one pair for each child.

Do this:

1. Explain to the children that God always hears us when we pray, just like we hear with our ears. Show them the ear shapes and tell them these represent God's listening ears.
2. Give each child a pair of paper ears and some markers or crayons. Encourage them to decorate their 'God's ears' with colors or stickers to make them special.
3. Once they finish, gather the children in a circle and encourage them to share something they would like to pray about. After each child shares, lead them in a simple prayer, thanking God for listening to us always, just like Romans 8:28 says, 'And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.' Finish by placing the decorated ears in the middle of the circle as a reminder that God is always listening.