

Talking To God

PRESCHOOL LESSON PLAN

Theme: Prayer is talking to God

Scripture: Romans 8:26-27

Memory Verse: Romans 8:26 - 'The Spirit helps us in our weakness.'

The Children's Sermon

Today, we're going to talk about a special way we talk to God, and that's through prayer. Prayer is like a phone call to God. It's how we share our thoughts, ask for help, and listen to what God has to tell us. But have you ever wondered, is prayer just us talking to God, or can God talk back to us? Well, prayer is actually a two-way communication. That means not only do we talk to God, but God talks to us too!

Now, you might think, "How do I know when God is talking to me?" That's a great question! God talks to us in many ways. One big way is through the Bible. In the Bible, there are lots of stories and teachings from Jesus that help guide us. It's like God's special book of answers for us. When we have questions or need help deciding what to do, we can find answers in the Bible.

God also talks to us through the people around us and the good things that happen. Have you ever seen someone do something really kind for someone else? Or maybe someone has helped you when you were feeling down or needed help. Those moments are ways God is speaking to us. It's like God is saying, "Look! This is how I want you to act. Be kind and help others."

Now, let's talk about a special part of the Bible that mentions prayer in Romans 8. In Romans 8, it talks about how the Holy Spirit helps us pray. Sometimes, we might not know what to say to God, or we might feel too sad or confused. But the Holy Spirit helps us by carrying our feelings and thoughts to God, even when we can't find the words. It's like having a best friend who knows exactly what you're feeling and helps you talk about it.

Romans 8 also tells us that God knows our hearts. That means God understands us better than anyone else, even better than we understand ourselves! So, when we pray, we can share everything with God - our happy moments, our sad moments, and even our worries. And the best part? God listens to every word.

But how do we listen to God? Well, listening to God takes practice. It's like learning to hear a whisper in a noisy room. We need to make quiet time to pray and read the Bible. That quiet time is like turning down the noise of the world so we can hear God's whisper in our hearts. Sometimes, God's answers come to us as a feeling of peace, an idea, or through the words of someone else.

Remember, prayer isn't just for asking for things. It's also for saying thank you to God for all the good things in our lives. It's like when you get a gift and you say thank you to the person who gave it to you. God loves hearing our thanks and sharing in our joy.

And don't worry if you're not sure how to start praying. You can talk to God just like you talk to a friend. You can tell God about your day, ask for help with something you're struggling with, or even share a joke! God loves hearing from you, no matter what you have to say.

Romans 8 also reminds us that nothing can separate us from God's love. That means no matter what happens, God is always there for us, listening and ready to help. So, we can always feel safe and loved when we talk to God through prayer.

So, let's remember, prayer is a two-way communication with God. We talk to God, and God talks back to us through the Bible, the people around us, and the Holy Spirit. It's a special way to stay connected to God and feel God's love in our lives.

Let's try to make prayer a part of our everyday life. Maybe we can start or end our day with a little prayer, or find a quiet moment during the day to talk to God. And remember, there's no wrong way to pray. God is always happy to hear from us.

So, next time you pray, remember it's not just about talking to God. It's also about listening and feeling God's presence in your life. And always keep in mind the lessons from Romans 8 - that the Holy Spirit helps us pray, God understands our hearts, and nothing can separate us from God's love.

Let's pray together now. Dear God, thank you for always listening to us and talking to us. Help us to hear your voice in our lives and to follow your guidance. Thank you for the love and care you give us every day. Amen.

And that's our special talk about prayer. Remember, God is always just a prayer away, ready to listen and talk back to us. Keep talking to God every day, and keep listening for God's answers. You'll be amazed at how much closer you'll feel to God.

Bible Memory Verse

Romans 8:26 - 'The Spirit helps us in our weakness.'

You Will Need:

- Colorful construction paper
- Scissors
- Markers or crayons
- Stickers (optional)
- Glue sticks

Get Ready:

- Cut the construction paper into large, simple shapes (like hearts or stars).
- Write the memory verse on a sample shape to show the children.

Do This:

1. Show the children the sample shape with the memory verse and explain that just like we need help to make our craft, the Holy Spirit helps us when we are weak or don't know what to pray.
2. Give each child a piece of construction paper and help them cut it into a shape if needed. Encourage them to decorate their shape with markers, crayons, and stickers.
3. Help the children write the memory verse on their shape. Once done, talk about how they can talk to God anytime through prayer and how the Holy Spirit helps us pray.

Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- A small, simple toy telephone or paper cups with string
- Colorful construction paper
- Crayons or markers

Get Ready:

- Create a "Prayer Corner" in your classroom with pillows and the toy telephone or paper cup phones.
- Cut out cloud shapes from the construction paper ahead of time.

Do this:

1. Gather the children in the "Prayer Corner" and explain that prayer is like talking to God, and we can talk to Him anytime, anywhere, about anything, just like talking on a phone.
2. Give each child a cloud-shaped piece of construction paper and crayons or markers. Ask them to draw or write something they want to talk to God about.
3. One by one, let the children use the toy telephone or paper cup phones to "call" God and share what they've drawn or written on their cloud. Encourage them to say a simple prayer, like "Dear God, thank you for..." or "Dear God, please help..." based on their drawing or writing.

Snack Activity: Prayer Pretzel Bites

You'll Need:

- Mini pretzels
- White chocolate chips
- Rainbow sprinkles
- Wax paper
- Microwave-safe bowl
- Spoon

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

Do this:

1. Explain that just like we can talk to God anytime, we can enjoy these pretzel bites anytime. Romans 8:26-27 tells us that the Spirit helps us pray even when we don't know what to say.
2. Melt the white chocolate chips in the microwave-safe bowl. Heat for 30 seconds, stir, and repeat until smooth. Tell the children this represents God's love covering us when we pray.
3. Dip the mini pretzels in the melted white chocolate, covering them halfway. Place them on the wax paper. The pretzel represents us, and the chocolate is like God listening to us.
4. Sprinkle the rainbow sprinkles over the chocolate-covered part of the pretzels. The sprinkles represent our prayers - all different and special to God.
5. Let the chocolate harden. While waiting, encourage the children to say a simple prayer to God, reminding them that He is always listening.

Game Activity: Prayer Path

You'll Need:

- A roll of wide paper (like butcher paper) or sidewalk chalk
- Markers or crayons
- Pictures of simple needs or situations (like a friend, family, sick person, school, etc.)

Get Ready: Roll out a long piece of paper on the ground or use sidewalk chalk to draw a large path that loops around back to the start. Along the path, place or draw the pictures of simple needs or situations at various points.

Do this:

1. Explain to the children that talking to God is like taking a walk and chatting with Him about everything on their minds. Romans 8:26-27 tells us that even when we don't know what to say, the Holy Spirit helps us pray.
2. Have the children start at the beginning of the path. As they walk along, stop them at each picture. Encourage them to say a simple prayer about that need or situation. For example, at a picture of a sick person, they might say, 'God, please help people who are sick.'
3. Once they've completed the path, gather the children and remind them that they can talk to God about anything, anywhere, just like they did on the prayer path.

Craft Activity: Prayer Hands

You'll Need:

- Construction paper (various colors)
- Markers or crayons
- Scissors
- Glue stick

Get Ready: Trace each child's hands on a piece of construction paper and cut out the shapes ahead of time.

Do this:

1. Have each child pick two hand shapes (representing their own hands in prayer) and write or draw things they want to pray about on one side. For younger children, you can write for them as they dictate their thoughts.
2. On the other hand shape, write 'Prayer is talking to God' along with Romans 8:26-27 to remind them that even when we don't know what to pray for, the Spirit helps us in our weakness.

3. Glue the sides of the hands together so the prayer requests and the verse are on the inside, symbolizing that these prayers are between them and God. Encourage them to 'open' their prayer hands during their prayer time to remember what they wanted to talk to God about.

Prayer Activity: God Hears Our Heart

You'll Need:

- A small, soft toy or bean bag
- A picture of a heart
- A quiet, comfortable space for sitting

Get Ready: Place the picture of a heart in the center of your sitting area to represent God's listening heart.

Do this:

1. Gather the children in a circle around the heart picture. Explain that prayer is like talking to God with our hearts, and God is always ready to listen.
2. Pass the soft toy or bean bag to each child, letting them hold it as they think of something they want to tell God. It could be a thank you, a sorry, or something they need help with.
3. After each child has had a turn, lead them in a simple prayer, thanking God for listening to our hearts, just like Romans 8:26-27 tells us that the Spirit helps us and prays for us, even when we don't have the words.