

Let Us Pray

UPPER ELEMENTARY LESSON PLAN

Theme: Praying for others faithfully

Scripture: 1 Timothy 2:1-2

Memory Verse: I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people— 1 Timothy 2:1

The Children's Sermon

Hey kids! Today, we're going to talk about something really important and special. It's called "Prayer for All People." Prayer is when we talk to God. It's like having a chat with a friend, but this friend is the best listener ever and can help everyone in the whole wide world.

Now, imagine if you had a super-duper, giant phone that could call God. What would you say? Some people might ask for help, some might say thank you, and others might just want to tell God about their day. That's what prayer is! And the cool thing is, we don't even need a phone to talk to God. We can do it anytime, anywhere, in our hearts.

But here's a really special part: when we pray, we shouldn't just talk about ourselves. We can pray for everyone! Yes, everyone! Our family, friends, teachers, and even people we don't know. That's what we mean by "Prayer for All People." It's like sending a big, warm hug to the whole world through our words.

So, why should we pray for all people? Well, because everyone needs a little help sometimes. Imagine if your friend was feeling sad or had a big test coming up. Wouldn't

you want to help them? By praying for them, you're asking God to give them a helping hand or to cheer them up. It's a way to show we care, even if we can't be there in person.

And guess what? Praying for all people makes the world a better place. It's like planting seeds of kindness and love everywhere. When we pray for others, we're spreading goodness all around, and that can make a big difference in someone's day or even their life.

But how do we pray for all people? It's easy! You can start by thinking of someone you want to pray for. It could be someone you know or even someone you heard about who might be having a tough time. Then, quietly in your heart or out loud, you can say something like, "Dear God, please help my friend feel better and be happy. Thank you." You see, it doesn't have to be long or fancy. What matters is that it comes from your heart.

Now, let's talk about something super cool. Did you know that when we pray for others, it can make us feel good too? Yep, it's true! It's like when you share your toys or give someone a hug. Doing nice things for others makes our hearts happy. So, when we pray for all people, we're not just helping them; we're also filling our own hearts with joy.

But here's a little challenge: sometimes, it's easy to forget to pray for others, especially when we're busy or having too much fun. So, how can we remember? Well, we can make it a part of our daily routine, like brushing our teeth or saying goodnight. Maybe every morning when you wake up or every night before you go to bed, you can take a little moment to pray for someone. It's a great way to start or end the day on a happy note.

And remember, prayer for all people means everyone, even people who might not be nice to us. That's a tough one, right? But when we pray for them, we're showing that we're all about love, just like God wants us to be. It's like being a superhero of kindness, using our superpower of prayer to spread love everywhere.

So, kids, let's make a big, beautiful promise together. Let's promise to use our superpower of prayer to help and care for all people. Let's fill the world with so much love and kindness that it shines brighter than the biggest star in the sky. And let's start right now, by closing our eyes, thinking of someone we want to pray for, and sending them a little prayer from our hearts.

Remember, "Prayer for All People" is a super special way to show love, spread kindness, and make the world a happier place, one prayer at a time. And you, my amazing friends, have the power to do just that. So, let's get out there and start praying for all people, and watch the magic happen.

Thank you for listening, and remember, God loves it when we talk to Him, especially when we're talking about helping others. Let's keep our hearts open and our prayers going for everyone, every day. Amen.

Bible Memory Verse

I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people— 1 Timothy 2:1

You Will Need:

-Construction paper

- Markers or crayons
- Envelopes

Get Ready:

- Gather all materials and set up a comfortable workspace for the children.
- Write the memory verse on a large piece of paper and display it where all the children can see it.

Do This:

1. Discuss the meaning of the verse with the children. Explain the different types of prayers mentioned in the verse and whom we should pray for.
2. Have each child choose someone they want to pray for—it could be a family member, friend, teacher, or even a leader. Ask them to write a prayer for that person on a piece of construction paper using markers or crayons. Encourage them to include petitions, prayers, intercession, and thanksgiving in their prayer.
3. Once they have written their prayers, have them fold the paper and place it in an envelope. Encourage them to either give the envelope to the person they prayed for or to keep it and pray that prayer for the person daily.

Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- World map or globe
- Sticky notes or small pieces of paper
- Pens or markers
- A large poster board
- Magazines, newspapers, or printed articles about current world leaders and issues
- Scissors and glue

Get Ready:

1. Set up a "Prayer Station" with the world map or globe at the center.
2. Prepare the poster board by titling it "Our Prayers for Leaders and Peace."
3. Collect and display magazines, newspapers, or printed articles about current world leaders and issues around the Prayer Station.

Do this:

1. Begin by reading 1 Timothy 2:1-2 aloud to the group. Discuss the importance of praying for others, especially those in authority, and how it leads to peaceful and godly living.
2. Invite the children to search through the magazines, newspapers, or printed articles to find current leaders (local, national, or global) and current issues facing the world today. Have them cut out the pictures or articles.
3. Ask each child to choose a leader or an issue they feel called to pray for. They will then write a prayer on a sticky note or piece of paper, focusing on asking God to guide the leader or resolve the issue in a way that leads to peace and godliness.
4. Children will then place their prayer note on the world map or globe where the leader is from or where the issue is most prevalent. If the prayer is for a global issue, they can place it anywhere on the map.
5. After everyone has placed their prayers, gather around the Prayer Station. Encourage the children to share who or what they chose to pray for and why, if they feel comfortable doing so.
6. As a group, lay hands on the map or globe and say a collective prayer, asking God to hear the prayers they've written and to work through the leaders and situations for His glory and the world's peace.

7. Finally, have the children paste their cut-out leaders or issues onto the poster board around the title "Our Prayers for Leaders and Peace." This will serve as a visual reminder to continue praying for these individuals and issues beyond today's activity.

Snack Activity: Prayer Pretzels

You'll Need:

- Pretzel dough (homemade or store-bought)
- Parchment paper
- Baking sheets

Get Ready: Preheat your oven to the temperature specified for your pretzel dough. Line your baking sheets with parchment paper.

Do this:

1. Discuss 1 Timothy 2:1-2 with the children, focusing on how it encourages us to pray for others, including leaders and all those in authority, so that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. Explain how the traditional pretzel shape can remind us of prayer, with the twisted loops resembling arms crossed in prayer.
2. Divide the dough among the children and instruct them to roll it into long ropes. Then, guide them to form each rope into a pretzel shape. As they do this, encourage them to think of specific people they want to pray for, including friends, family, leaders, and even people in difficult situations around the world.
3. Place the shaped pretzels on the prepared baking sheets and bake according to the dough instructions. While the pretzels bake, lead the children in a prayer session, inviting them to pray aloud for the individuals they thought of while shaping their pretzels. After the pretzels have cooled slightly, enjoy them together as a reminder of the importance of praying for others faithfully.

Game Activity: Prayer Path Challenge

You'll Need:

- Chalk or tape for outdoor or indoor use
- A large open space (playground or hall)
- Index cards with various leaders and authority figures (local, national, global) and situations to pray for

Get Ready: Create a large hopscotch-like path with squares using the chalk or tape. Each square should have a number from 1 to 10. Write down different leaders (e.g., school principal, mayor, president) and situations (e.g., peace in a specific country, wisdom for leaders) on the index cards. Place these cards at random squares along the path.

Do this:

1. Have the children line up at the start of the Prayer Path. Explain that 1 Timothy 2:1-2 teaches us to pray for all people, especially those in authority, so that we can live peaceful and godly lives.
2. Each child takes a turn to throw a beanbag or a small stone to determine how many squares to move forward. When they land on a square, they pick up the card in that square.
3. The child reads the card aloud and leads a short prayer based on the card's content (e.g., 'Dear God, please give our mayor wisdom to make good decisions for our city.'). After praying, the child places the card back and moves to the end of the line.
4. The game continues until all children have had multiple turns and as many different prayers as possible have been offered. Encourage creativity and sincerity in their prayers.

This activity not only helps children practice praying for others but also teaches them about the variety of leaders and situations that need our prayers, in line with 1 Timothy 2:1-2.

Craft Activity: Prayer Globe for Leaders

You'll Need:

- A clear plastic ornament that can be opened
- Strips of paper
- Colored pens or markers
- A small world map or globe image that can fit inside the ornament
- Glue stick

Get Ready: Print or cut out small world map or globe images that can fit inside the clear ornaments. Write 1 Timothy 2:1-2 on a large poster for reference during the activity.

Do this:

1. Begin by discussing 1 Timothy 2:1-2, emphasizing the importance of praying for all people, especially those in authority. Ask the children to think of leaders in their lives, communities, countries, and the world.
2. Have each child select a world map or globe image and glue it to the inside of one half of the clear ornament. This represents the world we are praying for.
3. On the strips of paper, instruct the children to write prayers for different leaders or groups of people they thought of. They can use colored pens or markers to make their prayers colorful. Once they have written their prayers, they can fold the strips and place them inside the ornament.

4. Close the ornament and tie a ribbon or string to the top. Encourage the children to hang their Prayer Globe in a place where they will see it daily as a reminder to pray for leaders and others faithfully, following the guidance of 1 Timothy 2:1-2.

Prayer Activity: Prayers for All People

You'll Need:

- A globe or world map
- Sticky notes
- Pens or markers

Get Ready: Read 1 Timothy 2:1-2 together as a class and discuss the importance of praying for others, including leaders and those in authority.

Do this:

1. Have each student pick a country or leader from the globe or world map. Encourage them to choose places or leaders they're unfamiliar with to expand their horizons.
2. On a sticky note, have them write a prayer for the people or leader of the chosen place, inspired by 1 Timothy 2:1-2. They should pray for peace, wisdom, and God's guidance for them.
3. Stick the prayers around the map or globe. Gather in a circle around the map, and as a class, pray over each note, asking God to work through the leaders and bless the people in each country. Conclude with a group prayer that God's love and peace would fill the earth.