



tips for youth workers

APRIL 2021

EASY-TO-USE PRAYERS

A priority in our ministry should be that of teaching our students how to talk to God in prayer. Having conversations with God is key to their spiritual development and in building their relationship with God. This month consider introducing these easy-to-use prayer tools to your students. If teaching virtually, some ideas may require prayer kits that can be dropped off at each student's home.

Popcorn Prayer – Sit in a circle or have your screen in gallery mode. One person begins, and then students randomly pop in and pray.

Prayer Slips – Write prayers out on slips of paper, place in a bag and let each student draw out a slip and read the prayer. Alternately, send prayers to students using the chat feature and have them read them aloud.

Soccer Ball Request – Provide students with a soccer ball (or inflatable ball). Encourage them to write their requests on the ball in the white pentagons and when answered, “white” them out.

Phone Call – Use a phone as part of an object lesson with young children. Help them to understand that prayer is like having a conversation with God.

ABC Prayers – Thank you God for A____, B____, C____, etc. Use food, people, etc. as categories. Go around the group/screen and invite your students to give thanks.

Siren Prayers – Encourage students to pray when they hear a siren. Pray for people the siren is responding to, sick people and those who are helping people in accidents.

Music with Prayers – Teach the Lord's Prayer to students using creative movement or dance.

Sign Language – Teach the young people to pray using sign language.

Grace Jar – Provide your students with cards that have different graces written on them and a jar to keep the cards. Encourage them to draw a card out of the jar and pray that grace.

News Headlines – Bring along news headlines to class either as PowerPoint slides or type them in the on-screen chat. Use the headlines to guide what you will pray for during your time together.

Prayer Chain – Cut paper into strips and provide each student with the paper strips, tape, and a pen. Encourage them to write prayer topics or requests on slips of paper and attach them together to form a paper chain. Encourage them to use the chain as a prayer guide.

Prayer Journal – Purchase or create your own journal for your class. Have students write or illustrate their requests and answered prayers.

Picture Prayer Book – Make a book together entitled either “Things I Can Pray For” or “My Prayer Book”. Have the students draw pictures, use photos, or downloaded images to illustrate prayer topics such as: grandparents, houses, schools, friends, and nature scenes (representing scripture prayers – *He leads me by still waters*).