

# City SG—May 15th-17th, 2021

**Today's Bible Story:** Livin' on a Prayer (Model Prayer) • *Luke 11:1-4*

**Today's 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*

## 1. Just for Fun

**What You Need:** Hand sanitizer and fidget spinner (1 Spinner per Group)

**What You Do:**

- Greet kids by name as they arrive.
- Instruct kids to use one pump of hand sanitizer.
- Encourage kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Gather kids to stand in a circle.
- Choose a kid and give them the fidget spinner.
- Instruct the kid with the fidget spinner to call out a movement to practice (jumping jacks, jogging in place, etc.) and spin the fidget spinner.
- Direct the rest of the kids to practice the movement until the spinning stops.
- Continue for several rounds, passing the fidget spinner around the circle so each kid has a chance to select the movement.
- NOTE: Make sure everyone sanitizes their hands so they can safely share the fidget spinner.

## 2. Opening Activity

**What You Need:** "Tangram Pieces" Page (1 per kid), "Tangram Patterns" Page (1 per kid), scissors (1 pair per kid)

**What You Do:**

- Give each kid a pair of scissors and a "Tangram Pieces" Activity Page to cut apart.
- Give each kid a "Tangram Patterns" Activity Page and encourage them to use their pieces to create the shape they see.
- If they finish a pattern and time allows, they can select a new pattern to complete.

**What You Say:**

"Great job, guys! It took some practice moving the pieces around to create the pattern on the page. But you did it! **[Transition]** Jesus gave us a pattern to follow when we talk to God. The Model Prayer!"

### 3. The Lord's Prayer in Four Parts

**What You Need:** Bibles, paper, pens

**What You Do:**

- Hand out a Bible to every two or three kids.
  - Encourage the kids to look up Luke 11:1-4.
  - Invite a kid to read Luke 11:1-4 to the group.
  - Divide kids into four groups and instruct them to sit together in the four corners of your small group area.
  - Give each group a piece of paper and a pencil.
  - Point out how the prayer Jesus prayed can be broken down into four parts.
  - Assign a phrase below to each group. The phrases sum up a part of Jesus' prayer.
  - Direct each group to write their phrase at the top of the piece of paper.
- Phrase 1: (Based on Luke 11:2) "Tell God He's awesome."
  - Phrase 2: (Based on Luke 11:3) "Ask for what you need."
  - Phrase 3: (Based on Luke 11:4a) "Seek forgiveness."
  - Phrase 4 (Based on Luke 11:4b) "Ask for help to do the right thing."
    - Instruct the groups to use their own words to create their own prayer based on the phrase they've been given.
    - To help kids get started, ask:
  - Group 1: How would you tell God He's awesome? What would you say to let Him know how great He is?
  - Group 2: What are the things you need? How could you write that in a simple prayer to God?
  - Group 3: What words do you say when you ask someone to forgive you? How would you ask God for forgiveness?
  - Group 4: When do you have trouble doing the right thing? When are you most tempted to make an unwise choice? How could you ask God for help with that?
    - Give the groups a few minutes to write their prayers.
    - Collect the papers.
    - Wait until prayer time at the end of group time to share them.

**What You Say:**

"I love this pattern for prayer that Jesus gave us. Tell God He's awesome. Ask for what you need. Seek forgiveness and help to do the right thing. I would bet that most of our prayers sound more like 'God, please give me,' or 'God, please help me.' That's why we need to **[Bottom Line] practice praying to God.**

"This week, as you talk to God, remember to praise Him for who He is and what He's done. Ask Him for the things you need and trust that He will provide them. Say you're sorry to God and to the people you may have hurt. Then ask God to help you do the right thing—the wise thing—this week. Those are ALL good things to practice when you talk to God!"

***[Make it Personal] (Share your favorite part of this pattern of prayer. Which part do you practice most often? Which part is hardest or maybe the one you forget? Why?)***

## 4. Emoji Verse

**What You Need:** “Emoji Faces” (1 set per group) and Bibles

### What You Do:

- Give a Bible to every two or three kids.
- Encourage the kids to look up 1 Timothy 4:8.
- Invite a kid to read 1 Timothy 4:8 out loud.
- Instruct the kids to recite parts of the verse in the emotion that is held up.
- For example:
  - Hold up the sad face emoji as the kids sadly say, “Training the body has some value.”
  - Hold up the happy face emoji as the kids happily say, “But being godly has value in every way.”
  - Hold up the scared face emoji while kids say in a scared voice, “It promises help for the life you are now living and the life to come.”
  - Hold up the surprised emoji as the kids say, “1 Timothy 4:8” like they’re surprised.
- Repeat the verse two or three more times, holding up the emoji faces in a different order as the kids recite the verse using that voice.

### What You Say:

“Growing in our faith takes practice! Talking to God is one BIG way we can grow in our relationship with Him. And our verse today reminds us that being godly—becoming more like Jesus—has value in EVERY way. So this week, let’s make a plan to **[Bottom Line] practice praying to God.**”

## 5. Pray and Dismiss

**What You Need:** Prayers from “The Lord’s Prayer in Four Parts” activity #3.

### What You Do:

- Gather the kids in a circle.
- Put the prayers the kids wrote in order by group: 1, 2, 3 and 4.
- Wrap-up group time using the dialogue below.
- Read the prayer the kids wrote out loud.
- Pray the words they wrote over them.

### What You Say:

“Jesus gave us a pattern to follow when we pray. We can use this pattern to talk to God anytime, anywhere, no matter how we feel. So this week, I want to challenge you to use this pattern as you **[Bottom Line] practice praying to God.** Let’s pray.”

*Close in prayer, reading aloud the prayers the kids wrote.*

## HAND OUT GOD TIME SHEETS

**Children will receive a prize when they bring their completed God Time sheets back the following week!**