#### HOW TO HELP KIDS PRAY OUT LOUD

1. **Relax when you pray.**

Much of this world is in a hurry. Show kids that prayer time is a special time with God and that we can slow down, think and not be in a hurry.

1. **Expect to connect with God.**

Prepare everyone’s expectations that we will be talking to the God of the universe. He will be listening and answering our prayers. It is one of the most important conversations we will have all week long.

1. **Use conversational voice.**

Avoid preachy or religious intonation. Rather, let it be a natural conversation with God.

1. **Don’t pressure kids to pray.**

Don’t force kids to pray but encourage them through invitation. Also compliment kids who do pray from the heart even if they have little eloquence. It helps others feel more ready next time.

1. **Demonstrate that short prayers are fine.**

Let the child know that just a few spoken words are as significant as many. God looks at what comes from the heart not the number of words spoken.

1. **Request prayer for special topics.**

Give specific suggestions of what needs prayer and ask, “Who will pray for this?” For example:

* Who knows someone who is sad because they feel all alone?
* Who knows someone who is sick?
* Who knows someone who may not trust Jesus and needs to turn his/her life to him?
* Who will give thanks?
* Let’s all think of one thing we learned and pray that God would help us do it or remember it.