



Date: _____

Series: Jesus Prayed For God's Help
Winter Year 2, Lesson 45

Jesus Prays on the Mount of Olives

Bible Event: Luke 22:39-46

Take Home Point: *JESUS PRAYED FOR GOD'S HELP –
God helps me, too.

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. The leader will say the first part of the phrase (CAPS). The children respond with the second part of the phrase (*italics*).

Jesus Link: We are able to pray to God because when Jesus died on the cross for us and rose again, he provided the way to God, the Father.

What kids will learn about God in this worship experience:

- Children will learn that God loves us and hears our prayers. Because Jesus loves God, he did exactly what God told him to do. Jesus knew doing what he was told would be painful. He would feel all alone so he prayed to God to receive strength and comfort. The children will learn to pray to God for comfort and strength. Kids will take home the point, ***JESUS PRAYED FOR GOD'S HELP – *God helps me, too.***
- Children will respond to God's love as they pray to him, thanking him for loving them and giving them Jesus. They will offer him their songs of worship, their offerings and their actions of love as they actively learn God's word.

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Welcome Zone: (15-20 minutes)

Purpose: While kids arrive, give them a simple learning readiness activity that requires minimal supervision. This might include a video, games, blocks, or puzzles.

Video Suggestion: Choose a video and list it here.

Activity Suggestion: Blocks, toys, puzzles, paper and crayons.



Opening Worship: (10-15 minutes)

Children can bring forward the cross, candles, Bible, offering plate, and treasure box. The treasure box contains the props used to tell or dramatize the Bible event. Open with a simple prayer, having the children repeat after you. Collect offering and talk about how God will use it.

Praise Songs:

Choose two or three songs and list them here.

Bible Event: Video

Test your sound and video system beforehand. Cue the video to precise beginning. For larger groups of children (15 or more), use a large screen TV or imager. Dim the lights before showing. To introduce a video, you might read from a Bible storybook and leave off the ending, inviting them to see what happens by watching the video. Also, you can introduce the video by inviting them to watch for special actions or words.

Show the video, *Beginners Bible: The Story of Easter*, produced by Sony Entertainment and Time/Life Video (1995) to the children. Start with the narrator saying, "And Jesus led his eleven disciples outside." End with Jesus saying, "It's okay. It's time to wake up."

Jesus took his disciples out of the city to the Garden. He needed to pray to his Father in heaven for he was worried about the next day. He knew that he was going to die on the cross and that made Jesus worried. He wanted his disciples to pray for him, too. It was nighttime; the disciples were tired and kept falling asleep. Jesus would go pray by himself for awhile. He went back to his disciples two times and both times they were asleep. Finally, an angel of the Lord gave Jesus comfort and strength to obey his Father to die on the cross the next day.

God hears our prayer when we are worried. He may not answer our prayer exactly like we want, but he will give us comfort and strength to face our worries.

Practice the take home point with the children. ***JESUS PRAYED FOR GOD'S HELP—God helps me, too.**



Action Zones: (20-30 minutes)

Purpose: Children move at their leisure to the activities according to their interest. Adults are assigned to oversee each of the zones, watching for safety, assisting any activity, and helping the children connect to the lesson of the day. All zones are introduced at the beginning of Zone Time. Some suggested zones are included below. It is usually best to have all children go to the Snack Zone first. Sing a blessing song or say a snack prayer together before dismissing to the zones.

uring the Zone Time, children may arrive from mid-service dismissal. If this is an option at your church, be prepared to welcome the children and invite them to choose a zone.

Snack Zone: Have the children spread jelly on a piece of bread. Hold bread in both hands and fold into a half sandwich. Have them notice that their hands are in a prayer position. Remind them that when we pray, we fold our hands, close our eyes, and bow our head.

Drama Zone: Options:

- 1) Reenact the story of Jesus praying for God's help. Make a garden scene with trees, flowers, silk leaves and a rock or large beanbag chair.
- 2) Discuss their prayer requests and pray for one another without falling asleep.

Puppet Zone: Let the children use puppets to explain the story from today's Bible Event to one another.

Felt Zone: Use felt board materials to show the story of "Jesus Prayed For God's Help" from today's Bible event. (For example, use Lesson #148 "Jesus' Prayer for Help" from *Betty Lukens Through the Bible in Felt*.)

Craft Zone: Fold construction paper in half. Put a closed hand (*fingers together*) on the paper. Make sure the pinkie finger is next to the fold. Trace hand and cut out. Open the paper and put on label and decorate.

Play Zone: Have the children form a line. Pick one of the children to make a bridge with the Shepherd or another child. Sing to the tune of *London Bridge*:

Go-d helps us when we pray
When we pray
When we pray
Go-d helps us when we pray
Let us pray today.

Drop the bridge and capture a child. Ask the captured child to name something they need help with and pray about it together. Continue until everyone has had a turn.

Quiet Reading Zone: Basket of books. Include any that feature the story of Jesus Praying on the Mount of Olives.

Music Zone: Your choice of music

Coloring Zone: “Jesus Prays on the Mount of Olives” coloring page.

Safety and Security: Safety and security procedures are important for each church to carefully define and implement according to their unique needs. The security, safety, illness and accident procedures described in this curriculum are provided for example purposes only and may not be appropriate, applicable or adequate for every situation. Each church is responsible for determining whether any security, safety, illness and accident procedures contained in the curriculum are appropriate, applicable or adequate for its unique situation. The activities described in this curriculum require adult supervision and may not be suitable for each child and each situation. Each church is responsible for ensuring that adequate adult supervision is provided for all activities and for determining whether an activity is appropriate for each child and each situation. Kids Kount Publishing disclaims all liability for the implementation of any procedures or the performance of any activities described in this curriculum.



Closing Worship: (20 minutes)

Purpose: As you empty the zones and clean up, begin the music so the children can start wandering over.

Worship Songs:

Choose one or two songs and list them here.

Bible Application with Puppet Presentation:

Purpose: The puppet demonstrates the need that will be met in today's lesson. The scripts are not written verbatim, but give a story line in which the group leader can interact with the puppet.

Bubba comes out and talks about the take home point.

Dim the lights and light some candles.

Bubba is scared and doesn't like the lights off. Bubba can't see the children, as well, and feels all alone. The presenter reminds Bubba that Jesus was all alone in the garden. This darkness reminds us what Jesus was going through. The presenter points out that Jesus wasn't afraid of the dark. But, he was worried about the next day when he would be on the cross and die for our sins and feel all alone. The presenter asks the children what are their worries and says we can pray. Remember: ***JESUS PRAYED FOR GOD'S HELP – God helps me, too.**

Prayer Time:

Purpose: Allow children to contribute their own prayers. This will teach them to turn to God in both good times and in times of trouble. End with the Lord's Prayer.

"Children Pray" Options: (select one from the options below)

_____ **Prayer Train Option:** Children line up and take turns stepping in front of the microphone and speak their brief prayers of thanksgiving.

_____ **Prayer Chair:** Children stand in a circle around one child sitting on a chair in the middle. All children in the circle will lay a hand on the child sitting in the chair as they say a prayer together.

_____ **Popcorn Prayer:** The leader moves through the crowd with a microphone and taps children on the head to stand and speak their prayer.

Lord's Prayer: Lead the children through the Lord's Prayer, phrase by phrase, or let them pray the entire Prayer along with you.

Blessing:

May God, who is all around you,
pour his love upon you.

(Beginning at the bottom of the circle, slowly make a large circle with your hands. Finish by bringing your hands down and wiggling the fingers to resemble rain.)

And Jesus, his life a sacrifice,
walk right there beside you.

(Slowly make a large sign of the cross. Then move your hands out to the sides.)

And may God's Holy Spirit,
the one who lives inside you,

(Cross your hands over your heart.)

keep you strong,
comfort, lead and guide you!

(Move to a "strong man" position. Then cross your arms with the hands on corresponding upper arms to communicate comfort. Bring one hand forward with "lead" and the other with "guide" to complete the blessing.)

Song of Sending:

Choose one song and list it here.



Closing Zones:

Purpose: Children go to an activity zone such as the coloring zone, quiet reading zone, and children's Christian music video zone, as they wait for their parents.

Supplies:

Welcome Zone:

- blocks, toys, puzzles, paper and crayons

Opening Worship:

- cross, candles, Bible, offering plate, and treasure box—the treasure box contains the props used to tell or dramatize the Bible event
- video: *Beginners Bible “The Story of Easter”* Sony Music Entertainment, Inc. and Time-Life Video, 1995—order from www.amazon.com, www.half.ebay.com, or www.sonymusicstore.com

Action Zones:

Snack:

- bread
- jelly or other spread
- butter knife or plastic knives
- plates and napkins
- water or juice
- cups

Drama:

- costumes
- *option:* fake trees, flowers, silk plants, large rock or bean bag chair

Craft:

- assorted colors of construction paper (8 ½” x 11”)
- scissors
- pencils, pens
- markers, crayons
- stickers
- label: “God Helps Me When I Pray”

Quiet Reading:

- pillows
- basket of books

Music:

- songs of choice

Puppet:

- assorted puppets

Felt:

- materials to reenact story (example, use Lesson #148 “Jesus’ Prayer for Help” from *Betty Lukens Through the Bible in Felt.*)

Coloring page:

- “Jesus Prays on the Mount of Olives”

Closing Worship:

- Bubba, the puppet
- candles

Closing Zones:

- colored pencils
- paper
- basket of books