



Date: _____

Series: Praying
Winter Year 1, Lesson 45

Jesus Prays in the Garden

Take Home Point: *Pray to God day and night.

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. The leader says the phrase and the children repeat it.

Bible Event: Luke 22:39-44

We will help children know:

- Jesus prayed to God his Father.
- Jesus wants us to pray.
- We can pray anytime, anywhere.




We will help children feel:

- Excited to learn about prayer.
- Secure in knowing that God is with us and loves us.

We will help children do:

- Watch a puppet presentation that introduces the Bible Event.
- Participate in acting out the Bible Event.
- Eat dark and light cookies to understand day and night.
- Color a “day and night” picture.
- Play a game called *Day and Night*.
- Take home a copy of *God Talk at Home* to reinforce the leaning of today’s
Take Home Point: ***Pray to God day and night.**

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Warm-Up (10 minutes)	3	Transition Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • your choice of toys
Large Group Opening (5-10 minutes) 	3	Puppet Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judy with tissue or handkerchief taped to her hand
Small Group Application (10 minutes—each activity) 	6 8 9 10	Activity 1: Bible Event Activity 2: Snack Activity 3: Craft Activity 4: Game	<p><i>Activity 1: Bible Event</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • garden items, your choice of potted plants, brown paper sacks stuffed with newspaper to look like rocks, artificial trees or plants, etc. • children's picture Bible <p><i>Activity 2: Snack</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • black and white sandwich cookies • napkins, cups and water <p><i>Activity 3: Craft</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix A copied on card stock • crepe paper streamers cut into 5" lengths (two per child) • glue • washable markers or crayons • regular craft sticks, six per child <p><i>Activity 4: Game</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • none
Large Group Wrap-Up (5-10 minutes) 	12	Review the Take Home Point Pray Sing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • your choice of music • craft example from Activity 3

Warm-Up (Prior to class and first 10 minutes of the session.)

Young children this age need a time to get acquainted with the new surroundings as they enter the classroom. Provide a variety of calm activities and toys, such as blocks, play centers and simple puzzles. These activities create an environment that helps young children let go of Mom and Dad. If necessary, Mom and Dad may play with them for a few minutes and then leave.

Large Group Opening (5-10 minutes)



Purpose: The opening puppet presentation will be an attention grabber that helps gather the children. This is not an extensive presentation but a quick overview introducing the Bible Event and the Take Home Point. Early childhood humor is also used. Bubba often says something silly about elephants. Judy says something silly about pink ponies. Let the children enjoy the “joke” but use it to call attention to the Bible Event.

Puppet Presentation:

Judy Prays Day and Night

Supplies: Judy puppet with a tissue or handkerchief taped to her hand.

Presenter: Boys and girls, let's call out Judy.

Children call for Judy. **Judy...Judy...Judy.** Judy comes out with a tissue in her hand and sniffing

Presenter: My goodness, Judy, what is wrong?

Judy: I was crying.

Presenter: Why, what's wrong?

Judy: My mommy left me here and I'm sad.

Presenter: Do you know what I do when I get sad?

Judy: Do you play with your pink pony?

Presenter: No. I don't have a pink pony.

Judy: Oh... That's really sad.

Presenter: But I do have something much better than a pink pony.

Judy: What's that?

Presenter: I pray to God and ask for his help.

Judy: I thought we were only supposed to pray at night.

Presenter: Only at night? Why do you say that?

Judy: Because we always say our prayers at bedtime.

Presenter: That is a wonderful time to pray. But we can also pray during the day.

Judy: When can I pray during the day?

Presenter: Many people pray before they have a meal. Boys and girls, raise your hand if you pray before you eat your food.

Judy: I do! I say "Thank you, Jesus, for my food."

Presenter: Wonderful. See, you already pray at day and at night. You can pray anytime.

Judy: Can I pray when I'm sad?

Presenter: Especially when you are sad. God wants you to pray day and night.

Judy: Will you show me how?

Presenter: Sure. Pray these words after me. Dear God...

Judy: Dear God,

Presenter: I miss my mommy.

Judy: I miss my mommy.

Presenter: I feel sad.

Judy: I feel sad.

Presenter: Will you help me?

Judy: Will you help me?

Presenter: And be with me now.

Judy: And be with me now.

Presenter: In Jesus' name. Amen.

Judy: In Jesus' name. Amen.

Presenter: Jesus will help you and give you special friends here so you won't miss your mommy so much. She is coming back soon, anyway.

Judy: I already feel better.

Presenter: Judy, and boys and girls, remember, we can pray to God day and night. Repeat our Take Home Point after me. *Pray to God day and night. Pray to God day and night.

Judy/kids: Pray to God day and night.

Presenter: Let's pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God, Dear God,
We love you. We love you.
Help us to pray, Help us to pray,
Each day and night. Each day and night.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.

Presenter: Now Judy, will you help the boys and girls learn a new song?

Judy: Sure—I love to sing.

Presenter: I will sing it first then we will try it together.

Song: To the tune of *Row, Row, Row Your Boat*
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

PRAY, PRAY, PRAY to GOD,
PRAY each DAY and NIGHT.
PRAY, PRAY, PRAY to GOD,
PRAY each DAY and NIGHT.

Small Group Application (30-40 minutes)



Purpose: Young children learn best by repetition. Review the Bible Event and practice the Take Home Point as you rotate through the activities.

The shepherd to child ratio for two-year-olds should be one to five or fewer. Divide into groups of five with one shepherd or have a slightly larger group with two shepherds.

Groups rotate from activity to activity. Another option, especially for larger churches, is to provide a leader at each activity table with a shepherd leading a group of ten. The ratio will be maintained at one to five.

Activity 1: Bible Event

Part One: Act Out the Bible Event

Jesus Prays in the Garden

Interactive Storytelling

Supplies: children's picture Bible that has a picture of Jesus praying in the garden, potted plants, an artificial tree, and large brown paper bags stuffed with newspaper to look like rocks

Supplies: Children's' Picture Bible

Hold up a children's picture Bible.

This is the Bible. It is God's word. Let's act out what it says in the Bible. When you see me do the actions, you do them too.

Add any supplies easily available that will create a garden effect.

Jesus taught his followers to pray.

- **Jesus had many followers. He taught them to pray. Praying is when we talk to God. Jesus taught his followers to pray at day and at night. We are going to act out a time when Jesus taught his followers to pray at night. Let's fold your hands like we do when we pray.**

Jesus has a special meal with his friends.

- **Jesus had 12 special friends called disciples. He told his friends, let's all have a meal together and remember how wonderful God is. It is very important that we talk to God. Boys and girls, let's pretend that you are Jesus' special friends. We are ready to eat our special meal. What do we do before we eat? We pray. Let's pretend to pray before our meal.**

- Pretend to take out a plate and eat our special food like Jesus did with his friends at their special meal.
- Jesus loved his friends very much. He did many kind things for them. Jesus told them he would even give his life for his friends. He would take their punishment on the cross so they did not have to suffer.
- After they ate their meal, Jesus said, “Let’s go to our special place in the garden to pray.” Boys and girls, let’s get up from our meal, and walk to our garden.

Walk around the room to where you have the garden set up, or just pretend there is a garden. Dim the light, if possible.

- Do you notice how dark it is at night? Do you ever get tired or sleepy when it is night? Let’s pretend to yawn.
- Jesus’ special friends were sleepy.

Jesus prays to God his Father.

- Jesus told his followers to stay awake and pray. “Ask God to be with you so you will stay awake and pray. Ask God to help you to obey.” Jesus went farther into the garden and prayed and prayed and prayed. He felt sad. Show me a sad face.
- When he came back to his followers, they were all asleep. Let’s pretend we are asleep.
- Jesus said: “Wake up! Stay awake and pray. Ask God to be with you. He will help you to obey.”
- Again, Jesus went farther into the garden and prayed and prayed and prayed. He felt sad. He wanted to do what God wanted him to do. When he came back to his followers, they were all asleep. Let’s pretend we are asleep.
- Jesus said: “Wake up! Stay awake and pray. Ask God to be with you. He will help you to obey.”
- A third time, Jesus went farther into the garden and prayed and prayed and prayed. He was still sad. He wanted to do what God wanted him to do. When he came back to his followers, they were all asleep again. Let’s pretend to be asleep again.
- Jesus said: “Wake up! How many times have you fallen asleep?” Three times—can you count to three? One, two, three.
- Jesus said, now it is time for us to go. Jesus and his followers went away. His followers remembered how important it is to pray day and night.

Part Two: Pray, Sing and Review the Take Home Point

Prayer:

Let's fold our hands and say a prayer:

Dear God, Dear God,
We love you. We love you.
Help us to pray, Help us to pray,
Each day and night. Each day and night.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.

Song: To the tune of *Row, Row, Row Your Boat*

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

PRAY, PRAY, PRAY to GOD,
PRAY each DAY and NIGHT.
PRAY, PRAY, PRAY to GOD,
PRAY each DAY and NIGHT.

Take Home Point:

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me. *Pray to God day and night. Pray to God day and night.

Activity 2: Snack

Supplies: black and white sandwich cookies, napkins, cups and water

Boys and girls, today we are going to eat a snack that looks like day and night to remind us to pray day and night. But first, fold your hands and repeat this prayer after me.

Dear God, Dear God,
We love you. We love you.
Help us to pray, Help us to pray,
Each day and night. Each day and night.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.

BE AWARE OF ANY FOOD ALLERGIES BEFORE YOU GIVE THE CHILDREN ANY FOOD TO EAT.
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Pass out a napkin and cookie to each child.

Look at your cookie now. Do you see how it has both white that looks like day and dark that looks like night? Whenever you eat a cookie like this, remember that God wants us to pray day and night.

Give each child a cup of water. While they eat, say to them:

Let's play a guessing game. I'm going to give you hints and you tell me if you know what it is. What animal has black and white stripes and looks like a horse? Wait for answer. That's right, a zebra. When you see a zebra, remember that black and white things remind us to pray day and night.

What animal is white with black spots and it barks? Wait for answer. That's right, a Dalmatian dog. When you see a black and white Dalmatian dog, remember that you can pray day and night. I have one more for you.

Can you think of a black animal with a white stripe down its back and it is really stinky? Wait for answer. That's right, a skunk. The skunk's black and white body can remind us to pray day and night.

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me. *Pray to God day and night. Pray to God day and night.

Now let's sing our song of the week.

Song: To the tune of *Row, Row, Row Your Boat*

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

**PRAY, PRAY, PRAY to GOD,
PRAY each DAY and NIGHT.
PRAY, PRAY, PRAY to GOD,
PRAY each DAY and NIGHT.**

Activity 3: Craft

Supplies:

- *Appendix A copied on cardstock (picture of day and night)*
- *regular craft sticks—six per child*
- *any color crepe paper streamers cut into 5" strips—two per child*
- *washable markers or crayons*
- *glue*

Boys and girls, today we are going to decorate a day view and a night view from a window. This will remind us to pray day and night. First we are going to color it.

After children are done coloring, have them glue the 5" strip of crepe paper on the top of the windows to resemble a curtain. Then glue the craft sticks on the two sides and bottoms to resemble a window frame.

Remember it doesn't matter if it is day or night, we can pray anytime.

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me. *Pray to God day and night. Pray to God day and night.

Now let's sing our song of the week.

Song: To the tune of *Row, Row, Row Your Boat*
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

**PRAY, PRAY, PRAY to GOD,
PRAY each DAY and NIGHT.
PRAY, PRAY, PRAY to GOD,
PRAY each DAY and NIGHT.**

Let's fold our hands and say a prayer. Repeat after me.

Dear God, Dear God,
We love you. We love you.
Help us to pray, Help us to pray,
Each day and night. Each day and night.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.

Activity 4: Learning Game

Supplies: none

Boys and girls, today we are going to play a game called "Day or Night." I will tell you something that happens and you have to tell me if it is at day or night.

- 1. When do we eat breakfast—day or night? Wait for response. That's right—day. Let's pretend to eat a bowl of cereal.**
- 2. When do we go to bed—day or night? That's right—night. Pretend you are sleeping.**

3. When do we play at the park—day or night? That's right—day. Pretend you are swinging on a swing.
4. When do we watch fireworks—day or night? That's right—night. Show me with your hands how fireworks go up into the sky.
5. When do we fly a kite—day or night? That's right—day. Pretend you have a kite on a string way up high and the wind is blowing it all over.
6. When do kids go to school—day or night? That's right—day. Pretend you are writing on paper at school.
7. When do the moon and stars come out? That's right—night. Pretend to be a twinkling star with your hands.
8. When does the sun shine? That's right—day. Can you make your arms into a circle up high like the sun?

Remember, it doesn't matter if it is day or night—God wants us to pray. Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me. *Pray to God day and night. Pray to God day and night.

Song: To the tune of *Row, Row, Row Your Boat*

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Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.

Large Group Wrap-Up: (5-10 minutes)



Lesson Review:

Presenter shows the craft and compliments the children for doing a wonderful job. He/she reviews the Take Home Point: ***Pray to God day and night.**

Lesson Prayer:

Let's fold our hands and say a prayer. Repeat after me.

Dear God, Dear God,
We love you. We love you.
Help us to pray, Help us to pray,
Each day and night. Each day and night.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.

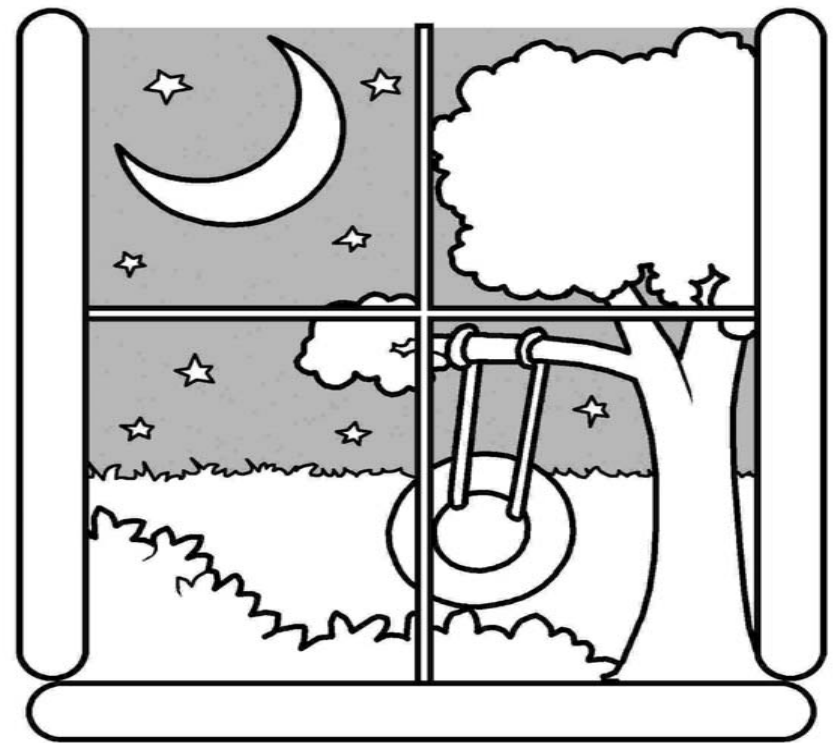
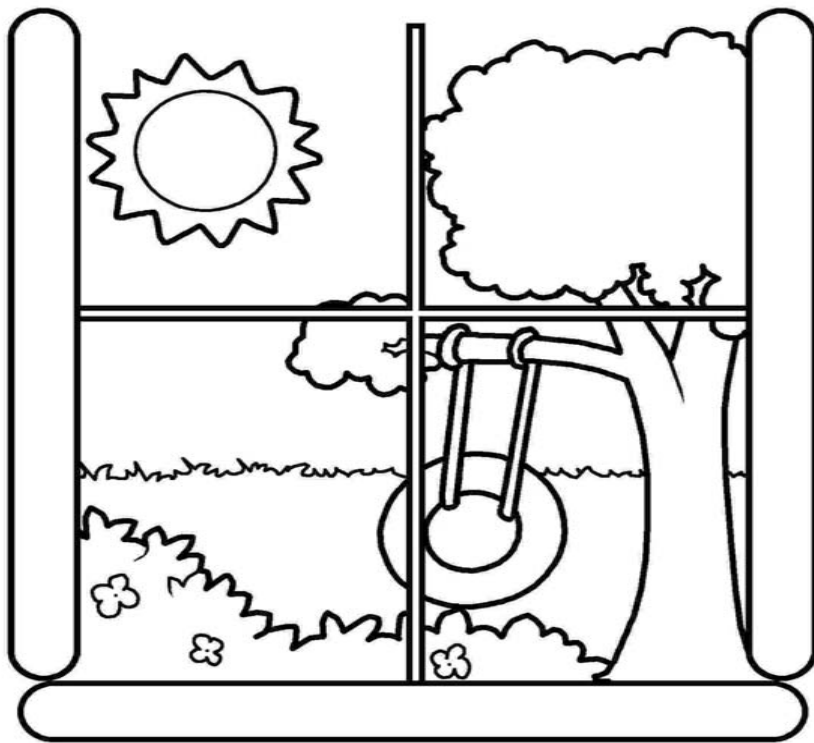
Lesson Song:

Song: To the tune of *Row, Row, Row Your Boat*
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

PRAY, PRAY, PRAY to GOD,
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Lead them in three songs on a tape or CD until parents begin arriving. Let parents know that they are welcome to join in. Dismiss by handing out the God Talk at Home.

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Pray to God day and night