

LESSON 4

PRAY WITH FAITH

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Hears Our Prayers

SCRIPTURE: James 5; 1 Thessalonians 5

GOD'S BIG STORY: As the Apostles James and Paul encourage us, we are to pray continually with great faith, believing that God hears and answers our prayers.

Object Lesson: Toy Telephone

Activity: Feeling Prayers

Worship

God's Big Story

Prayer and Blessing

Activity: Prayer Bear

Wonder@Home™

Designed for families to engage in the wonder of God together at home. This resource includes a video, worship playlists, activities, and more!

Object Lesson: Toy Telephone

SUPPLIES: toy telephone

Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church.

Welcome to church! Look what I have today! Hold up the toy telephone and pretend that it's ringing. Answer it and have a pretend conversation with someone. Hold the telephone up to the ear of each kid and let them have a pretend conversation if they want.

Some people use phones to call others when they want to talk. We're learning about talking with God. But we don't need a phone to talk to Him. God hears our prayers!

Activity: Feeling Prayers

SUPPLIES: disposable plastic plate, googly eyes (2), dry-erase marker, tissue, glue (prep only)

Before kids arrive, glue two googly eyes on a plastic plate. Use the dry-erase marker to draw a smiling mouth on the plate.

Hold up the plate with the smiley face. **Here's a face that is happy and smiling! Can you show me your happy face?** Allow kids to respond. **I love your happy faces. We can pray and talk to God when we are happy!**

Use the tissue to erase the smile from the plate and draw a frown. **Uh-oh. Now our friend is sad. Can you show me your sad face?** Allow kids to respond. **We can pray and talk to God when we are sad!**

Use the tissue to erase the frown from the plate and draw a circle for the mouth to represent a scared face. **Now our friend is scared. Can we pray and talk to God when we are scared? Yes, we can!**

We can pray and talk to God when we're happy, sad, or scared! We can talk to God all the time. God hears our prayers!

Our Wonder Truth today is **GOD HEARS OUR PRAYERS.**

Encourage the kids to do the following motions while you repeat the Wonder Truth. Older toddlers can say the words with you as they do the motions.

GOD—Point up.

HEARS—Cup ears.

OUR PRAYERS.—Praying hands.



Worship

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: songs from the [Power of Prayer Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#)

Today we're learning that God hears our prayers.

We'll learn in God's big story how God hears us when we pray! Let's sing and praise God for hearing us!

Play songs from the [Power of Prayer Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#) and encourage the kids to sing and dance with you.

God's Big Story

SUPPLIES: Bible

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: [God's Big Story Video](#)

God's big story today is from two letters written to the early Christians. The letters were written by two Jesus followers named James and Paul.

Today we're learning that God hears our prayers! Prayer is talking to God. God loves us and wants to talk with us. Let's sing a song about Jesus loving us!

Play part of the song, "Jesus Loves Me." Sing the chorus with the kids. **Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so.**

We can pray and talk with God when we are happy or sad. We can pray and talk with God when someone is sick or if we do something wrong. We can also praise God!

Play part of the song, "Praise Him, Praise Him." Sing a couple lines from the song with the kids. **Praise Him, Praise Him, all ye little children. God is love. God is love.**

Play part of the song, "This Little Light of Mine." **We can pray and ask God to help us do what He wants and shine His light!** Sing a couple lines from the song. **This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine. This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine.**

We can pray to God anytime we want! We can pray about big things or little things. God cares about everything we pray for.

Play part of the song, "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands." **We can trust God to help us and care for us.** Sing a couple lines from the song. **He's got the whole world in His hands. He's got the whole world in His hands. He's got the whole world in His hands. He's got the whole world in His hands.**

No matter what we pray about, God hears our prayers!

Prayer and Blessing

Let's talk to God.

God, thank You for hearing our prayers. Help us always remember to pray to You! In Jesus' name, Amen.

Encourage the kids to hold out their hands in front of them with palms up, as if their hands were open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

Blessing: **May you always remember that you can pray anywhere, anytime. May you remember that you can pray no matter how you are feeling or what is going on. May you always remember that God hears our prayers.**

Activity: Prayer Bear

SUPPLIES: teddy bear

Hold up a teddy bear and show it to the kids.

This is our Prayer Bear! Prayer Bear reminds us that we can pray anywhere! I am going to hide Prayer Bear somewhere in our room, and let's see who can find him! You will find him in places we can pray.

Hide the bear in various places around the room and let the kids find it. Ask questions about each place. For example, you could hide the bear at the snack table and then say: **"Prayer Bear was at the snack table! Can we pray to God during snack time?"** Or you could hide the bear with the toys and say, **"Prayer Bear was playing! Can we pray to God when we play?"**

Prayer bear reminds us that we can pray anywhere, and God hears our prayers!