

Prayer List

Small Group Application Activity Lesson 3 - I Will Pray!

PURPOSE:

This activity will demonstrate how the children can use a prayer list to follow Jesus' example of praying for concerns in our lives.

DESCRIPTION:

In this activity, the children will make a prayer list to post in a familiar place at home.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

For this activity, you will need this Help Sheet. For each child you will need writing materials and the "Your Will Not Mine Prayer List Lesson 3" from the Lesson Materials Folder.

TO INTRODUCE THE ACTIVITY SAY:

1. We often talk about praying when we are thankful, like thanking God for our food, or praising God for good things that happen in our lives.
2. But Jesus also gave us an example of how to pray when we have concerns, problems, and bad times in our lives.
3. Jesus went to a familiar place, prayed persistently, and asked God to do His will.
4. Today, we will make a list that will help us follow Jesus' example.

For detailed instructions on how to lead the activity, watch the Training Video.

DURING THE ACTIVITY SAY:

1. At the top of the list, there is a blank labeled, "Place."
2. Here you will write in a place that you choose to pray. It should be somewhere you are familiar with, but without many distractions around. You could choose a favorite chair, your back yard, near a favorite tree, or at the kitchen table.
3. We can pray to God anywhere, of course, but choosing a place to pray regularly will help us to focus our minds when it is time to pray and help us listen for what God may want to say to us.
4. There is also a blank labeled, "Persistence." Here you will write down a time to pray. It could be a specific time, such as, 4:30 PM. It could be a non-specific time, such as, "after dinner" or "before breakfast."
5. We can pray to God any time, as well, but setting aside one part of every day to pray to God will help you to do it persistently.
6. The last blank is labeled, "Purpose." When Jesus prayed, He asked for what He wanted, but His purpose was for God's will to be done, not His. Write "God's will" in this blank.
7. When we pray we should ask God for what we want. But we need to remember to have the attitude that Jesus did and say to God, "Your will be done."

Note: Lead the children in writing down things to pray for in their prayer time each day. Give them three or four things from the life of the church to pray for. Some examples are: pray for the pastor, pray for summer camp, pray for our homeless ministry, pray for a sick staff member. Then have the children share their own prayer requests.

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AFTER THE ACTIVITY SAY:

1. When you get home, take your prayer list and put it in a place that you will see it and remember to pray.
2. When it is time to pray, take your list to the place you chose, and pray for each thing on the list.
3. Remember to pray that God's will be done in each situation.

CLOSING STATEMENT:

Use this list to help you follow Jesus' example of praying persistently. Pray in a familiar place, at a specific time, and pray for God's will to be done. If you keep track of your requests during your prayer time, you will be amazed at how God answers your prayers.