

St Andrew's Church

Prayer Week 2017

Ideas for families to use at home



TOP TIPS for praying as a family

- Find a time each day when you can get together for a few minutes, no more than 10 is needed!
- Remember no time is the right time so choose something that suits your family. It could be a mealtime, bedtime or straight after school.
- Choose a good space so you can gather comfortably and spend time settling in...
- If you do your quiet time in a special way/place then share that with your family and give them a window into how you do it.
- You could light a candle... or put on some quiet music...
- You could say the Lord's Prayer at the end or beginning of your family prayer time.
- You might like to start by having a short time of silence to just listen.
- Don't panic if you miss one! Just start again the next day.
- Have some pictures of beautiful things or a basket of real things. Thank God for making them as you begin/finish your time together.



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Monday 20th February 2017

Matthew 6:33 New International Reader's Version (NIRV)

But put God's kingdom first. Do what he wants you to do. Then all those things will also be given to you.

Bubbles

This is a blessing prayer you can do over people, including very young children. As you get out the bubbles, say that they represent the blessings of God. You might like to talk about some blessings before you start or call them out as you blow:

Health	Safety	Patience
Family	Friends	Goodness
Good sleep	Wisdom	Faith
Joy	Peace	Gentleness
Rest	Forgiveness	Knowing God is near

Alternatively you could say a prayer of blessing or play a song about God's blessing as you blow the bubbles.



Tuesday 21st February 2017

Thank you for all we have. Help us to use it well.

Balloons

Inflate balloons and using a sharpie draw or write things to be thankful for at home, church, work and/or school.

Make these into a display at home.

Philippians 4:8 says: “Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things”

STARS

Cut out enough stars for everyone to have one and write prayers on them to say thank you for something. Stick them to a piece of black paper so it looks like the night sky.

Thanks Jar

Take a pretty jar and some fancy paper, cut into postcard sized pieces and hole punch them so they can be tied to the jar.

Thanks Jar: Spotted something GOOD in your life? Draw it or write it down, put the paper in here and thank God for it.

Label it

... and draw or write them on a piece of paper and put them in this jar!

Wednesday 22nd February 2017

Helping our friends know Jesus

Pray with Stones

Think of five people (friends, family or neighbours) you want to come to know Jesus. Write their names on smooth stones using a Sharpie. Place the stones where you will see them every day - in a basket in the bathroom, in a bowl on the dining table or on a shelf by the front door.

Take a stone and as you hold it in your hand, use this prayer:

Lord Jesus, we pray that may know how much you love him/her.

May s/he come to love you and follow you. Amen.

Holiday Club

Holiday Club 2017 runs from Tuesday 22nd August–Friday 25th August and it is a great event to bring a friend to. They have lots of fun, make new friends and hear about Jesus. Think about whom you might invite and pray that they will be able to make it.

Make a list of 5 favourite Holiday Club things that you can explain to a friend to show them how fabulous it is!

games* custard pies* crafts* songs* cake for parents* BBQ* prizes* stories* friends* drama* bouncy castle* praying



Thursday 23rd February 2017

I want to follow Jesus!

You and Jesus

- Which one of these sentences is the closest to what you think?
- Maybe you can think of something that will help you?
- Perhaps you've got a question you would like answered?
- Talk about what you have circled - your family would love to know and to help you.

I try to trust in God but I need some help.

I am already following Jesus!

I am not really bothered, thanks.

I would love to trust God and live his way.

Maybe this prayer will help:

*Lord Jesus, I want to be your friend.
Thank you that you came to earth to show us what God is like.
Thank you that you died on the cross.
I am sorry for all the wrong things I have said, done or thought.
Please forgive me and let me be your friend.
Please may the Holy Spirit help me be more like you.*

Amen

I think I'm interested, but not just yet.

Friday 24th February 2017

From Psalm 78

People at church who say what the Lord has done that is worthy of praise and talk about his power and the wonderful things he has done.

Pray for your Sunday group leader.

Write them a thank you card or draw them a nice picture.

Perhaps it could be of them on Sunday telling a story or organising a game.

Pray for someone who works hard at church - be sure to say well done to them.

Can you think of a job at church you would like to do?

Pray for someone who plays with you at church, maybe at coffee time or someone who is brilliant at organising fun games!

Invite someone for tea and to play more games at home!

Pray for someone who is kind to you at church.

Take them a present on Sunday - a flower from the garden or a stripey shell/pebble would do!

Pray for someone who helps you at church.

Do something helpful at home... and think about that person.