

Chapel Kids 2019

Common Ground Devotionals



“Don’t worry about anything. No matter what happens, tell God about everything. Ask and pray, and give thanks to him.”

—Philippians 4:6

Chapel Kids Parent Cue
Common Ground

PRAYER

Week 1:

EXODUS 33:7-11

Moses and the tent of meeting

SAY THIS: I can be best friends with God when I pray.

Week 2:

1 SAMUEL 3

God speaks to Samuel

SAY THIS: I can talk and listen to God when I pray.

Week 3:

JOHN 17

Jesus Prays

SAY THIS: I can pray for myself and others.

Week 4:

1 CHRONICLES 29:10-14;

2 SAMUEL 7:18-22;

PSALM 118:21, 16:7-8

David's Prayers

SAY THIS: I can praise & thank God.

Week 5:

2 CHRONICLES 20

Jehoshaphat

SAY THIS: I can pray to God when I am sad or scared.

Week 6:

DANIEL 6

Daniels in the Lion's den

SAY THIS: I can pray to God.

REMEMBER THIS

“Don't worry about anything.
No matter what happens, tell God about everything.
Ask and pray, and give thanks to him.”

- Philippians 4:6

Chapel Kids Parent Cue

Common Ground

Do This



Morning Time

Kids: Is there anything you are concerned about for today? A quiz or test in school? A tough friend situation? You don't have to share it but ask your family to pray for this difficult thing today.

Parents: Ask your children to pray for YOU. What is stressing you out that you have to do today? You may be surprised at your child's sensitivity to your situation.



Drive Time

Ask your child if anything upsets them when they drive with you. Do they see an accident? Do they hear sirens? Do they feel you get upset when driving? Remind your child we can pray to God anytime and about anything. Pray as you drive about the concerns they brought up.



Meal Time

After dinner and after helping clean up the kitchen table. Bring out paper, markers, etc. and write out this week's verse (Phil 4:6). Make it as eye catching as possible and hang it in a place the whole family will see each day. "Don't worry about anything. No matter what happens, tell God about everything. Ask and pray, and give thanks to him." Philippians 4:6



Bed Time

Parents, pray this prayer out loud over your children. "Dear Lord, Thank you for _____. Allow them to open their heart to you. Give them confidence in you and in their faith in you. Help them to turn to you through prayer in difficult times. Remind them to give you praise for all you have blessed them with. Grant them the courage to tell others about you. May they follow you all the days of their life. In Jesus name, Amen."

Week 1:

I can be best friends with God when I pray.

Read Exodus 33:11a

DAY 1

Who is your best friend? _____

How did you become best friends?

You probably spent a lot of time together, talking and getting to know each other before you became best friends. Maybe you realized that you both love to dance or play soccer or do arts and crafts and that led to you wanting to spend more time with each other.

Did you know that God wants to be your best friend too? This week we heard about Moses and the tent of meeting. Moses would go into the tent to talk to God. In Exodus 33:11a we read that God spoke to Moses like a FRIEND. And just like best friends become best friends by talking to each other often, so God wants to talk with you so that your friendship can grow. When we talk to God, we call that prayer.

Take a couple minutes to pray and tell God how happy you are that He wants to be your best friend.

Read Psalm 119:10-11

DAY 2

Draw a picture of your favorite thing to do with your best friend.

Does your best friend know a lot about you? Do you know a lot about your best friend? The more time best friends spend with each other, the more they learn about each other. Whether it's by hanging out at basketball practice, playing at the park, or talking on the phone, the more you are with each other, the closer you become. This is just like our relationship with God. God wants to spend time with us. The more time we spend with God, the more we will learn about Him and the closer we will become. One way we can get to know God better is by reading the Bible. The Bible is God's Word.

Spend 5 minutes reading God's word. Afterwards, write down one new thing you learned about God. Pray and thank God for giving us the Bible so that we can learn about who He is.

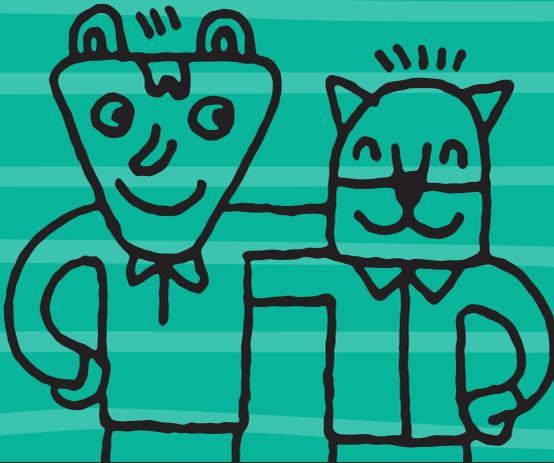
Read Philippians 4:6

DAY 3

Do you trust your best friend? You probably do since, after all, you are best friends! God wants to be our best friend and we can trust Him too!

Read Philippians 4:6. What can we tell God? EVERYTHING. There is nothing we could tell God that would make Him love us less. We all sin and make mistakes. But because God loves us so much, He sent his one and only son Jesus to die on the cross to take the punishment for OUR sins. The price has already been paid, and now anyone who believes in Jesus will get to spend eternity with Him in Heaven. You can trust God with all your heart because He loves you no matter what you do.

Philippians 4:6 is our theme verse for the next 6 weeks. Write it on a notecard and tape it by your bed. Every morning and every night, read it and remember that you can tell God anything and everything!



Read Ephesians 3:18-19

DAY 4

Complete the verse below, fill in the missing words.

Ephesians 3:18-19 "May you have power together with all the Lord's holy people to understand _____. May you know how _____ and _____ and _____ and _____ it is. And may you know his love, even though it can't be known completely. Then you will be filled with _____ God has for you."

God loves us SO much that we can't even fully understand how much He loves us. How does it feel knowing God loves you and wants to be your best friend?

Week 2:

I can talk and listen to God when I pray.

Read 1 Samuel 3:10

DAY 1

Have you ever noticed how moms and dads know their kids voices? You could be yelling “Mom! Mom!” at a busy park where there are lots of other kids and moms and yet your mom would still know it was you calling for her. That’s because she knows your voice. This week we heard the story of God calling Samuel in 1 Samuel 3. Samuel thought Eli was calling for him in the middle of the night, but he wasn’t. Eli told Samuel that it was God calling for him and then told him to respond next time by saying, “speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.” Samuel needed to recognize God’s voice and then listen before God would speak to him.

What are some ways we can learn to recognize God’s voice? The more we spend time with God the more we will learn to recognize His voice. We can spend time getting to know God by reading the Bible and by praying to Him often.

Read John 14:26

DAY 2

Complete the verse. Fill in the missing words:

John 14:26 “But the _____ will send the _____ in my name to help you. The _____ is the _____. He will _____ you all things. He will _____ you of everything I have said to you.”

One way we can listen to God is by listening to the Holy Spirit. After Jesus died and rose again, God sent the Holy Spirit to live in His believer’s hearts to teach us and to remind us of what He says in the Bible. So if you believe in Jesus, then you have the Holy Spirit living in you. Have you ever lied and then felt really bad about it? That feeling is one way the Holy Spirit teaches and guides us. Pray the following prayer and then spend one minute in silence listening for anything God might be wanting to say to you:

Dear God, Thank you for giving me the gift of the Holy Spirit to teach and remind me of what you say in the Bible. Help me to listen for whatever you may be trying to tell me today. I love you. Amen.

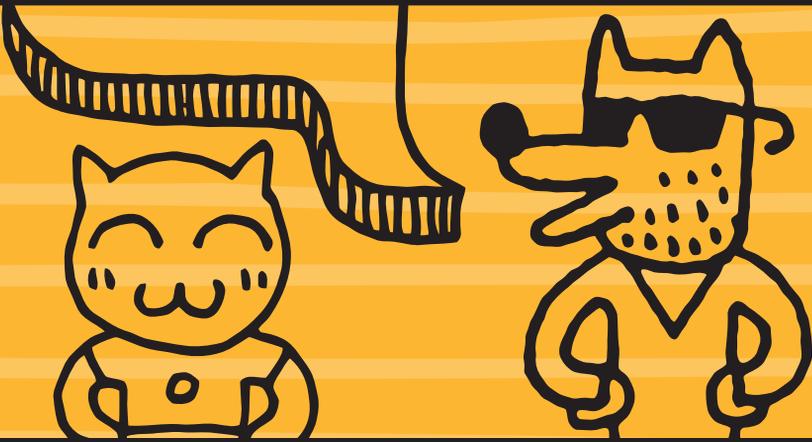
Read Romans 8:26

DAY 3

Do you find it easy or hard to pray? Even if you love God with all your heart, sometimes it can be hard to know what to say to Him, and that's okay! Romans 8:26 tells us that even when we don't know what to pray, the Holy Spirit, will pray for us. For example, you could pray something like this:

Dear God, Thank you for being so awesome. I am not sure what to pray right now but I know that the Holy Spirit will pray for me. Thank you for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Next time you are stuck and don't know what to pray, remember Romans 8:26 and ask the Holy Spirit to help you.



Read John 10:27

DAY 4

Would you rather talk or listen? Some of us really like to talk, while others of us are great listeners. When we pray, God wants us to do both. He wants us to tell Him all about our days and everything going on in our lives but He also wants us to pause and listen to what He has to say to us.

Do you find it easy or hard to talk to God?

Here are a few suggestions if you find it hard to talk to God:

- Create a prayer corner in your room with a comfy chair.
- Write down your prayers in a journal.
- Talk out loud as you pray.

Do you find it easy or hard to listen to God?

Here are a few suggestions if you find it hard to listen to God:

- Go to a quiet place where there aren't many distractions.
- Read a verse or passage from the Bible and then spend a minute thinking about it. Write down what you learned from the passage or felt God saying to you.

Week 3:

I can pray for myself and for others.

Read Jesus' prayer in John 17

DAY 1

What are some things Jesus prayed for? _____

This week we heard the prayer that Jesus prayed in John 17. We learned that we can pray for ourselves and for others. Today take some time to pray for your family and friends. In the space below, write down a few names of family members and friends. Then, take 5 minutes to pray specifically for them. Here's an idea to get you started:

Dear God, I pray for my brother. Help him to work hard at school and stay safe in his football game. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Bonus! Find (or call) the people you wrote down and ask them how you can be praying for them. Write their requests down so you can remember to continue praying for them.



Read 1 Timothy 2:1-2

DAY 2

Have you ever prayed for your teachers? What about for your small group leader or your pastors? In 1 Timothy 2:1-2 we read that we should pray for everyone who is in authority. Next to the leaders below, write down your prayers for them. Here's an idea to get you started:

Dear Lord, I pray for the police officers in my town. Keep them safe and may they know you. Amen.

Now keep going with the following:

- Teacher
- Small Group Leader
- Pastors
- Government
- Military

Read James 5:15

DAY 3

Do you believe that prayer is powerful? Remember, when we pray we are talking to God who is the creator of the universe, the creator of all the plants and animals, the creator of US! He can do far more than we could ever ask or imagine.

There are people in the world who are sick. There are people in the world who are poor. And there are people in the world who are being treated badly because they believe in Jesus (this is called persecution). It can be hard to know how to help but one important thing we can always do is PRAY.

Can you think of a person or a place who needs God to heal them, help them, or keep them safe? Write it down and then spend a couple minutes praying for God to be with them. Here's an idea to get you started:

Dear God, I pray for Christians around the world who are being persecuted because of their faith. I pray that you would protect them and comfort them so that they can keep sharing your Good News with others. Amen.



Read Philippians 4:6

DAY 4

Do you have Philippians 4:6 memorized? Remember, this is our theme verse as we talk about prayer. You've done a great job praying for others this week. It is so important to pray for our family and friends, our leaders and authority, and for the sick, poor, and persecuted but you know what? God also wants you to pray for yourself. Look at our theme verse again:

Philippians 4:6 "Don't worry about anything. No matter what happens, tell God about everything. Ask and pray, and give thanks to him."

Remember how we learned that God wants to be your best friend? That's because He loves you and wants to be with you through everything that happens, the good and the bad, the happy and the sad. So today, be honest with God. If you're happy, tell God why. If you're sad, tell God what's going on. Take a few minutes to pray for yourself today. If it helps, write down your prayer on a notecard or in a journal.

Week 4:

I can praise and thank God.

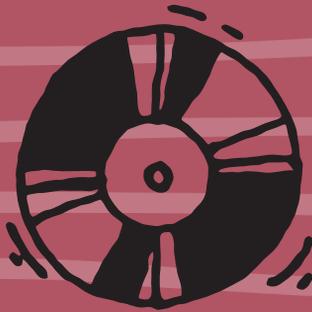
Read 1 Chronicles 29:10-14

DAY 1

David loved God so much and had a close relationship with Him. This was because he prayed to God A LOT. When David would pray, he would usually start by praising and thanking God. He would praise God, telling how awesome He is and why he loves Him. He would also thank God for answering his prayers, for always being with him, and for guiding Him every day. We can learn from David and praise and thank God too.

What is something from today that you are thankful for? Write it below:

God, thank you for _____



Read Psalm 13

DAY 2

When David talked to God, he was honest and told Him everything. He told God when he was mad, when he was upset, and when he was frustrated. Even in those prayers though, David would still thank and praise God.

Read Psalm 13 again. David tells God how upset and frustrated he is. But look at verses 5-6. What does David still do in those verses? He praises God.

Have you ever been so upset that you didn't think there was anything to praise God for? Let David and Psalm 13 remind you that every day, even on the worst days, there is still always something we can thank and praise God for.

God, today I praise you for _____

Read Psalm 118:1

DAY 3

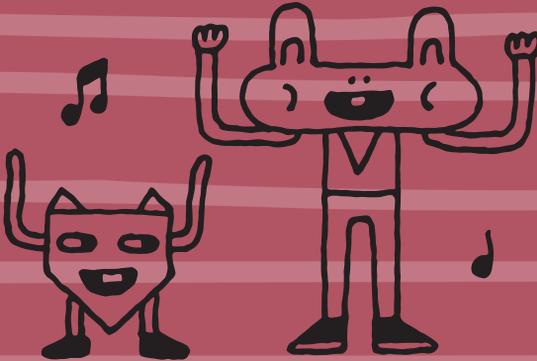
That is such a sweet verse isn't it? God is good and His love continues forever. All week long we have been learning about praising and thanking God when we pray. Think about the different places you go each week. What is something you can praise and thank God for in each of those places? Write down your answers below!

Home-

School-

Church-

Sports/Music practice



Read 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

DAY 4

Complete the verse. Fill in the missing words:

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 "Always be _____. Never stop _____. Give _____ no matter what happens. God wants you to _____ him because you believe in J_____."

Do you think this is easy to do? Some days it may be but there are days that it can be really hard to be joyful and to want to thank God. That is why we need to be intentional about doing it until it becomes a natural part of our day. To be intentional means to do something on purpose. Studies say that it takes 3 weeks for something to become a habit.

So, are you ready for a challenge? First, go find a journal or a piece of paper. Make sure it's in a place that you won't lose it. Now, every day for the next 21 days, before you go to bed write down one thing you are thankful to God for. After 21 days it should become a habit and a part of your daily routine so keep going!

Week 5:

I can pray to God when I am sad or scared.

Read 2 Chronicles 20

DAY 1

Do you remember our story from this week? The Moabites (mow-uh-bites) and Ammonites (am-uh-nites) were preparing to go to war with King Jehoshaphat (Ji-hosh-uh-fat). King Jehoshaphat was afraid and prayed to God. He told God that they were powerless without Him and that they needed Him to help them in this battle. But then God told King Jehoshaphat that he didn't need to be afraid because that battle was not for them but for God himself. Jehoshaphat and his soldiers worshiped and praised God as they prepared for battle. And do you remember what happened? When they arrived, God had already defeated the enemies! King Jehoshaphat and his soldiers praised God!

How do you respond when something difficult comes your way? Is your first response to get upset or is your first response to pray? God wants us to come to Him with our fears, worries, and frustrations. Next time something difficult happens remember what King Jehoshaphat did and talk to God.

Read James 1:5-6

DAY 2

Do you know what wisdom is? Wisdom is having experience, knowledge and good judgement. Have you ever had to make a really big decision but you weren't quite sure what to do? You probably asked your parents and friends for advice but did you know that you can also ask God? In James 1:5-6 we learn that we can ask God for wisdom and He will give it to us. But what must we do? We read in verse 6 that when we ask we must believe! God is able to do far more than we could ever ask or imagine (check out Ephesians 3:20!) we simply must believe.

What is something you need wisdom for right now? _____

Take a minute to pray and ask God to give you wisdom.

Read John 16:33

DAY 3

Complete the verse. Fill in the missing words:

John 16:33 "I have told you these things, so that you can have _____ because of me. In the world you will have _____. But be encouraged! I have _____ the battle over the _____."

In this world, we will face trouble at times. But when we believe in Jesus, we can be encouraged because He has already won the battle. He is bigger than the world and all the troubles we will face here. So, next time you are facing trouble, be reminded that someday we will get to spend eternity with Jesus in Heaven, where there will be no more troubles.

Dear God, thank you for winning the battle over the world. Thank you for the peace that you bring because we know you are bigger than all the troubles we will ever face in this world. Thank you for the hope we have that one day we will get to be with you in Heaven. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.



Read Isaiah 41:10

DAY 4

Do you ever get scared? That's okay, we all do! But, we can have comfort because we know that God is always with us and He holds us safe in His hands. Isaiah 41:10 is an awesome verse to memorize. Write it down on a notecard or a piece of paper and then, put it next to your bed. Read it before you go to bed and when you wake and be reminded that God is always with you!

Week 6:
I can pray to God.

Read Daniel 6:10

DAY 1

Do you remember our lesson from this week? We heard the story of Daniel. Remember, a law was made that anyone who prayed to God would be thrown into a lion's den. But Daniel loved God so much that he kept praying. And so, he was thrown into the lion's den. But what happened? God shut the mouths of the lions and saved him. Daniel loved God so much that even being thrown into a lion's den wouldn't stop him from talking to God.

How many times a day did Daniel pray?

There no right or wrong answer as to how many times a day we should pray. The important thing to remember is that we can talk to God through prayer and He loves it when we do! Take a few minutes to pray right now. Here's a prayer to get you started:

Dear God, thank you for loving me. Thank you for the gift of prayer and that I can talk to you at any time. Thank you for hearing my prayers. Amen.

Read Something 29:12

DAY 2

God wants to hear from us because of how much He loves us. And when we talk to Him, we know that He hears every single word. Below are some different things we can talk to God about. Below each word, write down your prayer.

Praise (Ex. God, you are so awesome.)

Confess (Ex. God, I am sorry for lying to my parents.)

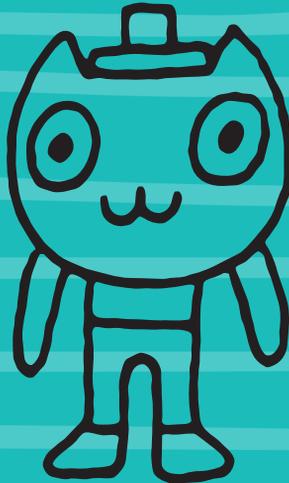
Thanks (Ex. Thank you God for the sunshine we had today.)

Ask (Ex. God, help me to remember everything I need to know for my math test tomorrow.)

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

DAY 3

Do you remember this verse? We talked about it a couple weeks ago. Today let's focus on the part that says "Never stop praying." Even when Daniel knew he'd be thrown into a lion's den, Daniel kept praying. And just like Daniel, we can talk to God at all times. Do you keep praying even when life gets hard? What about when life is going great? God wants to be a part of our everyday, of the good times and the bad times. So when you lose your soccer game and you're upset, talk to God about it. When you're painting wins an award, talk to God about it. Just like Daniel, "never stop praying".



Read Psalm 5:3

DAY 4

Did you know we can talk to God anytime, and anywhere? Remember, God is always with you and always ready to talk. So maybe on your bus ride to school, you take a few minutes to pray for your friends. Or, maybe if you get to football practice early, you take a few minutes to pray for a safe practice. What are some other times of the day that you can pray? List them below:

When do you find it easiest to pray? (In the morning, before bed, at dinner, etc.)

Find some post-it notes and write the word "PRAY" on a few of them. Stick them around the house to remind you and your family to pray at all times!