



PRAYING IN AWE

PRAYING WITH KIDS

AWE

Have you ever really watched and listened to a child pray? They believe that if they pray, God will 'help grandma find her glasses', 'make the family pet get better' and 'keep monsters away at night'. Kids will pray about what matters to them, when it matters to them and they believe without a doubt that God listens.

As adults many of us lose the ability to pray unjaded. There have been many unanswered prayers, moments when it felt like, if our prayers were emails, they would be going straight to the spam box. Prayer can become mundane, another task just to tick of the list. Our children pick up on this and as they grow, many of them loose the sense of awe that the creator of the universe has time to listen and communicate with them.

We want to encourage you as individuals, as churches and as families to get creative and rethink how you do prayer. Bring back that sense of awe, get relational, create some memories and help your kids develop lifelong faith.

The Discipleship Ministry Team - Children
South Pacific Division



PRAYER IDEAS



Sticky Note Reminders

Put prayer sticky notes in hidden places throughout your house. Use these as reminders to pray through the day and pray about everything. Be creative and even consider using prayer scriptures as ideas for notes.

I Have Value

Assure your child that Jesus wants to hear about anything that's on their mind. Simply invite them to pray by saying, God loves to hear about the things that you love. Would you like to talk to Him about trucks today, school, whatever is happening?

Share the Moment

'Share the moment' prayers help kids remember that Jesus is with them every minute of the day. Just before you experience something special and wonderful, take a moment to invite Jesus to share the experience with you.

Flashlight Prayers

In the evening, make prayers before bed special by huddling together under a 'prayer tent.' Sit side-by-side on your child's bed and throw a spare sheet over top of you both to create your prayer tent, then pray together by flashlight. Check out Psalm 139.

Centre of Attention

Choose a specific day of the week to pray for each member of the family. For example, on Mondays you might pray for specific blessings for Dad; on Tuesdays, for your eldest child etc. Doing this will help your child learn to pray for others and also learn how to make their prayer needs known.



Prayer Deck

Prepare a small stack of cards with each card displaying the photo of someone you pray for regularly. Each evening before or after dinner, shuffle the cards and deal one or more cards to each member of your family. Take turns praying for the people on the cards you receive.

Newspaper Prayers

As a family grab a newspaper (or your phones) and spend 10-15 identifying things in the news that you could pray for as a family. Then as a family pray about what you have read.

God moments

As a parent be intentional in creating moments where your child can encounter God. For example one Sabbath morning wake the kids up before sunrise and drive to a convenient or scenic vantage point (i.e. the beach) and wait for the sun to rise. As the sun rises have a short worship and prayer.

Prayer in a Jar

Place a jar and some pieces of paper on the table where you eat your meals. During the day, family members (and household visitors) can write down a prayer request and put it in the jar. At meal times, pull the slips out to add special requests to your prayer time.

Prayer Journal

If your kids are introverted a prayer journal may be a safe way to start conversations with your kids about prayer. Discuss requests, share answers to prayer and help them discover what prayer means to them as they develop lifelong faith.

- children.adventistchurch.com/resources

- <http://letslassothemoon.com/2016/02/10/mother-daughter-journal/>



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