



COMMITMENT | WEEK 3 | MAY 15-16, 2021

## 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Lesson

# Livin' on a Prayer

**Life App:** Commitment—Making a plan and putting it into practice

**Bible Story:** Livin' on a Prayer (Model Prayer) • *Luke 11:1-4*

**Bottom Line:** Practice praying to God.

**Basic Truth:** I am loved by God no matter what so I can be confident that God knows who I am.

**Memory Verse:** “Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises help for the life you are now living and the life to come.” 1 Timothy 4:8, NIV

**KID CONNECT:  
10 MINUTES**

**LARGE GROUP:  
30 MINUTES**

**SMALL GROUP:  
20 MINUTES**

## LEADER BIBLE STUDY

*Growing in faith is not something that happens by merely cramming more information about the Bible into a child's brain. All of that knowledge in their head means nothing if we don't help kids experience what that knowledge can do in their hearts. To fully experience faith, we want kids to practice their faith. And that takes commitment.*

*God keeps all His promises and puts His plans into action. Because God has followed through on those plans, we get the chance to be with God forever. We reflect God's commitment to us when we can make a plan and stick to it. This month, we'll help kids discover that one of the best plans they can make is to commit to an ongoing relationship with Jesus. Commit to practicing faith by reading God's Word, praying to Him consistently, talking about Him with friends, and living out that faith every day.*

In **Luke 11:1-4**, we find Jesus's disciples asking Him how to pray. Jesus responds with a prayer that serves as the perfect model for how we can talk to God. We can pray with gratitude and honesty, pray for our needs and forgiveness. It's comforting to know that we can pray, knowing that God knows us and wants to hear from us.

Bottom Line: **Practice praying to God.** We can pray anytime, anywhere because God is always listening. We hope kids will understand more about the faith skill, PRAY, and find that talking to God is an essential part of growing in their faith.

## KID CONNECT

### WELCOME TIME

(VIDEO: INTRO MUSIC)

*Play* intro music and greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to fill out attendance sheets, and help new kids connect to your group.

### OPENING ACTIVITY:

(“Tangram Pieces” and “Tangram Patterns” Activity Pages – 1 Per Kid, Scissors)

#### What You Do:

- Give each kid a pair of scissors and a “Tangram Pieces” Activity Page to cut apart.
- Give each kid a “Tangram Patterns” Activity Page and encourage them to use their pieces to create the shape they see.
- If they finish a pattern and time allows, they can select a new pattern to complete.

#### What You Say:

“Great job, guys! It took some practice moving the pieces around to create the pattern on the page. But you did it! *[Transition]* **Jesus gave us a pattern to follow when we talk to God. Let’s go find out what Jesus said.**”

## LARGE GROUP

### COUNTDOWN AND WELCOME

(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN, SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS)

*Show* the countdown video as you transition to Large Group. Set it to end as the session begins. *The Large Group Leader has lots of energy as he or she welcomes everyone to KidCity. The LGL is relatable and inviting. LGLs can talk about something that happened culturally throughout the week like a big sports game, movie opening, a viral video on YouTube, holiday, etc. The LGL tells them how excited he or she is that they’re there and briefly runs through what they can expect. This is especially helpful for first-time guests to make them feel like they know what’s happening.*

**LGL:** “Welcome everyone! I’m so glad you are able to come hang out with us in KidCity today. My name is [INSERT NAME]. We are going to have a lot of fun today by playing a game, singing some incredible songs that worship God, and then we are going to hear an amazing true story from God’s Word, the Bible.

“But first, let’s quickly go over our KidCity Expectations (rules) so we can make sure that we make the most of our time today: *(Don’t dwell on these too long, but make sure you review them briefly so we can set everyone up for success.)*

1. Be Kind – We need to be kind with our words and actions to our friends, leaders, and the space that we are using
2. Be Safe – Make wise choices with your actions and words
3. Have Fun – Participate in what we are doing! It’s no fun just sitting there...

“Now that we know our expectations, let’s kick off our day with a game!”

## LARGE GROUP GAME

### FLIP-A-DELPHIA

**(4 Half-Full Water Bottles)**

LGL: “Hello, friends! I’m so glad you’re all here to train once again! Hold on . . .

*Put up one finger and pause to gulp some more water.*

“Ahhh, that’s so much better! It’s so important to stay hydrated when you’re training for a big race. You’ve got to fuel up if you want to push yourself to grow stronger. You’ve got to make a plan and stick to it! You need commitment.

**(SLIDE: LIFE APP)**

“Commitment is making a plan and putting it into practice.

**(SLIDE: THEME)**

“But remember, commitment isn’t just important when you’re running. It’s important to have commitment in ALL parts of your life—like if you’re doing school work, you have chores around the house, or you’re learning to play an instrument. Commitment is especially important if you want to grow stronger in your relationship with God. You’ve got to make a plan and put it into practice!

“Our memory verse for this month is a good reminder of that. It’s 1 Timothy 4:8. Say it with me.”

**(SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE)**

KIDS and LGL: *“Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises help for the life you are now living and the life to come.” (NIRV)*

**(SLIDE: THEME)**

LGL: “Nice job! Now, when you train for a 5K like me, the most important fuel you can put in your body is this stuff: *(Hold up the water bottle.)* H2O . . . agua . . . water!

“I need a few Small Group Leaders to help me with a little hydration challenge. *(Select the same number of leaders as you have water bottles.)* Come on up, leaders—let’s see which one of you is the best at water bottle flipping!

*As the leaders come up, demonstrate how to flip your bottle and attempt to land it on the table. Have the leaders stand behind the table(s). Put a half-full water bottle in front of each of them.*

“Your leader will have one minute to flip their water bottle and LAND it as many times as they can. *Do a slow-motion demonstration to show your bottle flipping then landing on the table.*”

“The leader who lands the most bottle flips will be the winner. So, kids, make sure to count out loud how many flips your leader lands. Really yell it out to let us know.

“Leaders, are you ready? On your mark, get set, FLIP!”

### **(AUDIO: GAME MUSIC)**

*Set a timer on your phone for 60 seconds. Cheer for the leaders and react when they successfully land their bottle. Make sure the kids remember to shout out their leaders' numbers so you can keep score. When time runs out, declare the winner (if it's obvious). Ask the kids in that small group how many successful flips their leader landed.*

“Great job, leaders! I see you all really understand the need for good hydration. *(to kids)* And all of YOU understand the importance of cheering for your leaders. Great job! Let's keep the fun going as we all stand up and worship God together.”

## **WORSHIP**

**(VIDEO: LET REVOLUTION START, O TASTE AND SEE)**

## **BIBLE STORY**

**(SLIDES: LIFE APP, BOTTOM LINE, MEMORY VERSE, BASIC TRUTH, FAITH SKILLS; VIDEO: BIBLE STORY)**

**(Bible)**

**LGL:** “All right friends, who can raise their hand and tell us the definition of our Life App, Commitment? *(Pause for response)* That's right!”

**(SLIDE: LIFE APP)** “Commitment is making a plan and putting it into practice.

“We're talking this month about how we can live with commitment and grow in our relationship with God. First, we need to know the training plan. Then we need to put that plan into practice! Our training plan is simple.

**(SLIDE: FAITH SKILLS)**

“HEAR, PRAY, TALK, and LIVE.

“We can HEAR from God when we take time to read the Bible. (*Hold up Bible.*) We talked about that last week. Today, we’ll talk about this one: PRAY.

“Praying is just talking to God. It can be hard though to know what to say to the Creator of the Universe...who we also can’t see! Well, God is Jesus’ Father, and Jesus talked to God all the time. He made a habit of it. Let’s see what He had to say about praying.”

### **(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY)**

“It’s so good to know that God is with me all the time and that I can talk to Him about what’s going in my life. That’s really amazing, if you think about it! I can talk to Him anytime, anywhere, about anything—and you can, too!

“Jesus’ prayer gave us the perfect example of the way we can pray to God. We don’t have to just pray about the things we want or need. We can take time to honor God and praise Him. We can ask God to show us how we can be a part of what He’s doing in the world.

“Prayer is such a huge part of our training plan. It helps us grow stronger in our relationship with God.

“Remember . . .

### **(SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE) “Practice praying to God.”**

“If praying is new for you, you don’t have to feel nervous. You don’t have to worry about saying just the right things when you talk to God. Remember, He LOVES you! He is your perfect Father, and He loves to hear from you. You can ask someone else to help you pray, or you can try it on your own. Just speak to God right from your heart!

“If you’re someone who HAS prayed to God before or if praying is something you do every day, this is a great reminder about why it’s so important. We can be honest with God. We can talk to Him about the things going on in our lives, and we can know that He cares about them all. Praying helps us connect with God and reminds us that...

**(SLIDE: BASIC TRUTH) “I am loved by God no matter what, so I can be confident that God knows who I am.**

“We don’t have to hide anything from God. He loves us no matter what.

“Let’s go over our Bible verse for the month.”

## **MEMORY VERSE**

### **(SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE)**

*Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises help for the life you are now living and the life to come. 1 Timothy 4:8 (NirV)*

## PRAYER

“Let’s pray together.

“God, You are so amazing! Thank You for this example Jesus gave of how we can talk to You. We know that prayer is an important way that we can stay connected to You. Help us pray the way Jesus showed us—to honor You and ask for Your kingdom to come . . . ask You for the things we need . . . and tell You we’re sorry when we’ve messed up. Thank You for loving us and ALWAYS hearing our prayers. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

## DISMISS TO SMALL GROUPS

### SMALL GROUP

**Life App: Commitment—Making a plan and putting it into practice**

**Bible Story: Livin’ on a Prayer (Model Prayer) • Luke 11:1-4**

**Bottom Line: Practice praying to God.**

**Basic Truth: I am loved by God no matter what, so I can be confident that God knows who I am.**

**Memory Verse: “Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises help for the life you are now living and the life to come.” 1 Timothy 4:8, NirV**

## THE LORD’S PRAYER IN FOUR PARTS

**(Bibles, Paper, Pencils/Markers)**

What You Do:

- Hand out a Bible to every two or three kids.
- Encourage the kids to look up Luke 11:1-4.
- Invite a kid to read Luke 11:1-4 to the group.
- Divide kids into four groups and instruct them to sit together in the four corners of your small group area.
- Give each group a piece of paper and a pencil.
- Point out how the prayer Jesus prayed can be broken down into four parts.
- Assign a phrase below to each group. The phrases sum up a part of Jesus’ prayer.
- Direct each group to write their phrase at the top of the piece of paper.
  - o Phrase 1: (Based on Luke 11:2) “Tell God He’s awesome.”
  - o Phrase 2: (Based on Luke 11:3) “Ask for what you need.”
  - o Phrase 3: (Based on Luke 11:4a) “Seek forgiveness.”
  - o Phrase 4 (Based on Luke 11:4b) “Ask for help to do the right thing.”

- Instruct the groups to use their own words to create their own prayer based on the phrase they've been given.
- To help kids get started, ask:
  - Group 1: How would you tell God He's awesome? What would you say to let Him know how great He is?
  - Group 2: What are the things you need? How could you write that in a simple prayer to God?
  - Group 3: What words do you say when you ask someone to forgive you? How would you ask God for forgiveness?
  - Group 4: When do you have trouble doing the right thing? When are you most tempted to make an unwise choice? How could you ask God for help with that?
- Give the groups a few minutes to write their prayers.
- Collect the papers and pray it together as a group.

### What You Say:

"I love this pattern for prayer that Jesus gave us. Tell God He's awesome. Ask for what you need. Seek forgiveness and help to do the right thing. I would bet that most of our prayers sound more like 'God, please give me,' or 'God, please help me.' That's why we need to *[Bottom Line]* Practice praying to God.

"This week, as you talk to God, remember to praise Him for who He is and *what* He's done. Ask Him for the things you need and trust that He will provide them. Say you're sorry to God and to the people you may have hurt. Then ask God to help you do the right thing—the wise thing—this week. Those are ALL good things to practice when you talk to God!"

*[Make it Personal] (Share your favorite part of this pattern of prayer. Which part do you practice most often? Which part is hardest or maybe the one you forget? Why?)*

## MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

(Bibles, Memory Verse Poster)

### What You Do:

- Have kids look up 1 Timothy 4:8 and read it together.
- Ask:
  - What does "godly" mean? (*"Godly" means 'the quality or practice of conforming your life to the laws and wishes of God'*)
  - Why does living a godly life have value?
- Say: "Let's practice "training" ourselves to live a godly life! One of the ways we can do that is by memorizing God's Word."
- Have kids stand up. Place the Memory Verse Poster so everyone can see it. Have kids do a squat for every word of the first sentence. Kids do jumping jacks for the second sentence and shadow box (safely) for the final sentence. Repeat as desired.

### What You Say:

"Growing in our faith takes practice! Talking to God is one BIG way we can grow in our relationship with Him. And our verse today reminds us that being godly—becoming more like

Jesus—has value in EVERY way. So this week, let's make a plan to *[Bottom Line]* Practice praying to God.”

## DISCUSSION

Ask the following questions and lead the group to discuss:

- If God knows everything already, why do we need to pray?
- Which part of the Lord's Prayer do you most often pray? (*Praising God for who He is, telling God you want His plans to be true, asking Him for what you need, asking Him for forgiveness*) Which parts do you sometimes forget to pray about?
- Is there a right or wrong way to pray?
- What can you do if you don't feel like praying or if you don't know what to say to God?

## PRAY AND DISMISS

(2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> GodTime Card - 1 per kid)

### What You Say:

“God, we are so thankful that You hear our prayers. We are thankful that we can pray to You anytime, anywhere, and about anything. Thank You that Jesus gave us an example of how to pray. Thank You that He taught us that we should PRAISE You, ASK for the things we need each day, ASK for forgiveness, GIVE forgiveness, and ASK for help to live like Jesus. Please continue to teach us to come to You about anything. You love us so much, and we are so thankful for Your Son, Jesus. It's in Jesus' name we pray, amen.”

Pass out the GodTime Cards to each kid. If there's spare time, encourage kids to start looking over their GodTime card and point out how it relates to today's lesson.