



MAIN POINT	MAIN BIBLE VERSE
Prayer isn't our last resort; it's our greatest weapon.	James 5:13-20

Students will learn that prayer is for every season of life and is how we depend on God.

Teaching Script / Guide

LET'S BREAK THE ICE

Leader Note: *Pick one to kick things off. Keep it fun and easy!*

- Have you ever tried to fix something on your own way too long before finally asking for help? What happened?
- When something goes wrong, what's your first instinct? (Figure it out yourself, text a friend, ask a parent, panic...)

BIBLE STUDY

Leader Note: *Read Together: James 5:13–20*

- In verse 13, what two very different situations does James mention? What does he say to do in each one?
- In verse 16, James says the prayer of a righteous person is really powerful. What do you think makes prayer powerful — the words we say, or something else?
- James says prayer is for when life is hard AND when life is good. Do you tend to pray more when things are going bad or when things are going well? Why?
- Church should be like a family where people are honest, not a place where everyone pretends to be perfect. Do you think that's hard to do? Why?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Leader Note: *Connect the teaching to where students actually live. Keep it casual and low pressure.*

- Be honest — do you treat prayer like a last resort or like a first move? What does your prayer life actually look like day to day?
- Is there something you've been worrying about or trying to handle on your own that you haven't really brought to God? What's made it hard to pray about it?
- Is it easy or hard for you to ask other people to pray for you? Why?
- Is there someone in your life who seems far from God right now? What do you think it looks like to pray for them and love them well?

MAKE IT REAL

Leader Note: *These are more personal. Share your own answer first. It's the last week of the series, so take your time here and make it count.*

- What's one thing — a worry, something you're thankful for, a sin, a struggle — that you could bring to God in prayer today?
- Is there one person in this group or in your life you'd feel comfortable being honest with about something you're going through? What would it look like to take that step this week?
- Think of one person who seems far from Jesus right now. Would you be willing to pray for them by name every day this week?

THE GOSPEL CONNECTION

Leader Note: *End the series strong. This is a natural moment to share the gospel clearly and invite students to respond. Don't rush it.*

- The teaching said: "In Jesus, we can know that God already loves us, hears us, and invites us to come near." How does that change the way you think about prayer?
- For some people, the most important prayer they could pray isn't about a problem — it's: "Jesus, I need You. Forgive me. I want to follow You." Is anyone in the group at that place right now?

PRAYER

Leader Note: *This is the last week of the series! Make the prayer time special. Ask students to share something specific before you pray. If your group is ready, invite students to pray out loud for each other.*

- Take prayer requests — invite everyone to share one thing they want the group to pray for.
- Celebrate what God has done over these four weeks.
- Close by thanking God together for this series and praying for each person by name if you can.

THIS WEEK

Pick one of these to try before you meet again:

- Practice praying first this week — before you worry, before you react, before you try to fix it yourself.
 - Be honest with one trusted person about something you've been carrying alone and ask them to pray with you.
 - Pray by name every day for one person who seems far from Jesus.
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