

Bible Truth: I can talk to my friend Jesus through prayer.

Bible Story: 1 Samuel 3:1-10
Young Samuel talks with God at night.

Bible Verse: Romans 5:11 (NLT)
“Jesus Christ has made us friends of God.”

Supplies: 1 Prayer Sheet (*recommend printing on cardstock*)
1 Set of PRAY Cards (*recommend printing on cardstock*)

Small Group Connection (5 minutes)

We want to make sure that we connect with every child God brought our way. This is the time for children to turn to their Small Group Leader who will ask them a few simple get-to-know-you-better questions. The countdown video will signal when it's time to refocus on the upfront teacher. Feel free to use something to pass around to signal when it's a child's turn to speak.



(ask these questions...)

- What is your favorite thing to do with your friends?
- When was the last time you got to do this?
- How often do you talk with your friends during a typical day?
- What do you usually talk about?
- Have you ever had to move away from good friends?
- Have you ever had to be the “new kid” at school?

Small Group Discussion – 1 Samuel 3:1-10 (8 minutes)

This is a chance for your children to open up their Bibles and read a story about a young person who lived for God. This will be the same Bible Story they saw Woody, the pencil character, draw for Zack in the second part of the Zap Pack video. They will also have a chance to discuss this story with you, their Small Group Leader. For younger children, read the Bible story while they follow along in their Bibles. The countdown video will signal when it's time to refocus on the upfront teacher.



(say the following...)

- Who can lookup 1 Samuel 3:1 in their Bible? Let me show you how.
- Who wants to read 1 Samuel 3:1-10? If no one is comfortable reading, I'll read it. (*read Bible story*)



(ask these questions)

- What was Samuel's job in the temple? (*help Eli the priest*)
- What was Samuel sleeping near? (*near the Ark of God*)
- Who did Samuel think was calling him? (*Eli*)
- How many times did it take for God to get through to Samuel? (*three times*)
- How did Samuel respond to God? (*Your servant is listening*)

Questions Continue on Back →

- How is Samuel's conversation with God like prayer for us today? (*He spoke with God and listened*)
- How is Samuel's conversation with God not like prayer for us today? (*We can't hear God's actual voice*)
- What are some ways that God might show you that He is really listening to your prayers?
- How can prayer help you when you feel alone? (*Bring comfort knowing that God is always there*)
- Why do you think God wants us to pray to Him? (*He loves us deeply and wants to be our best friend*)
- What experience do you have with prayer?

Small Group Activity – Build-A-Prayer (10-15 minutes)

This is a chance for your children to gather with their Small Group Leaders one last time and do a short activity that will help them apply today's Bible truth. We will not display a Countdown since this should take the rest of the service time.



(say the following...)

- Today we learned about talking with Jesus because He is our best friend.
- In our final small group, we are going to talk about how we can pray.
- To help us out I brought in this Prayer Sheet. (*lay Prayer Sheet in the middle of your group*)
- You'll notice that it spells out the word PRAY. (*point this out on the Prayer Sheet*)
- Each letter in the word PRAY stands for something...

P – Praise	It's important to praise God for His greatness and goodness to you.
R – Repent	It's important to repent to God for all the ways you've messed up.
A – Ask	It's important to ask God for His help and to provide for all your needs.
Y – Yield	It's important to yield to God because you know His ways are best for you.
- Let's practice praying using these Prayer Cards. (*bring out set of Prayer Cards*)
- I am going to lay all the cards face down and we'll take turns choosing a P, R, A, and Y card and placing them face up on the Prayer Sheet.
- We can then read out loud what this prayer sounds like. (*repeat this for each child*)
- We can do this a number of times, before we come up with our own prayer using the PRAY technique. (*have children come up with their own Praise, Repent, Ask, and Yield prayer components*)



(ask these questions)

- What are some other ways to pray? (*remember prayer is just talking with God*)
- When are good times to pray? (*remember you can pray anytime and in any place*)
- How often do you talk with your friends during a typical day?
- How often do you talk with your family members during a typical day?
- How would your relationships suffer if you stopped talking with your family and friends?
- How often do you talk with God during a typical day?



(say the following...)

- Let's end our time by praying together.
- Is there anything that you need prayer for?