

BIBLICAL LITURGY FOR CHILDREN

"PRAYER FOR OTHERS AS AN EXPRESSION OF LOVE AND UNITY"

Central Idea:

It was important for Jesus to devote time to prayer. By praying we are imitating Jesus Christ: sharing the burdens of others, demonstrating love and fostering active unity, thus testifying to the world of the true God.

Text:

John 17

Jesus Prays Glorifying the Father

Vrs. 3

Jesus Prays for His Brothers and Friends

Vrs 11

Jesus prays for us

Vrs 20 – 21

Have ready (activities):

- Cardboard of two or three colors
- Scissors
- Glue
- Down or pencil
- Print the songs or write them on a

Guide for the facilitator:

Dear Facilitator, we appreciate your willingness to share with the children this lesson, remember that this experience should be as far away from school classes as possible. It is intended to create confidence and security in the children that Jesus is the model for their lives, their relationships with the Father, with their relatives, friends and with all people. He listens to us, and we are important in His kingdom.

The intended effect is for children to achieve an intimate relationship that allows them to know God, appreciate His word, and live the instructions found in it.

As a facilitator, you can adapt the suggestions, depending on the circumstances of your group, such as age, number of participants among others.

Previous preparation

Take time to pray for the Holy Spirit to guide you.

Prepare the lesson in advance, listen, and familiarize yourself with the suggested songs, read the Bible text, and study the lesson you are teaching. Look for the materials you will use.

General objective:

Reflect on the importance of prayer to express love and unity.

Specific objective:

That children are able to:

- Identify the needs for which Jesus prayed.
- Mention some situations for which to pray for the family, the church, the community, and the world.

Purposes of the lesson:

Jesus prayed with great devotion in the day of his trial, and not only did he ask for strength, but he had in mind his close friends, his disciples and us. The unity he had with his Father is what Jesus desires for his disciples and subsequent believers, in this way, it would be made known throughout the world, that God sent his son Jesus to earth.

With this Bible lesson we seek to make participants understand that by praying for others we demonstrate our concern and love for them, this brings us closer to each other and helps us maintain unity, thus testifying of God's love.

During the lesson

Show the children that reading the Bible and praying is not simply something we want them to do, but it is something we practice that fills us with joy and the assurance that God loves us.

Facilitate activities, remember that your goal is to guide children.

Help them feel comfortable and involved.

Stimulate curiosity and thoughts, ask gently.

Lead each of the activities with devotion, grace and energy.

To end the lesson

Guide reflection, dialogue, and concrete actions.

Songs:

The following songs are suggested for the beginning and closing of the meeting, you can also choose another song related to prayer.

1. The time has come to pray <https://youtu.be/kN0efoPtDqU>
2. As you pray <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VfjxZUhMuNo>

Let's Start:

Ask the children, have you ever felt sad or distressed because a loved one has passed away? Give the children space of 2-3 minutes to share.

On one occasion the disciples felt sad and confused because Jesus told them He was going to leave them. Jesus could see that His friends were sad and thought I'm going to comfort them! Then Jesus said to them, "It is the same with you. Now you are sad. But I will see you again and you will be happy. And no one will take away your joy. (John 16:22)

After Jesus finished speaking with his disciples he looked up at heaven and prayed; First He did it for Himself, entrusting His life into the hands of the Father. He was teaching us that before praying for other people, we need to put our hearts in the hands of the Father and glorify Him through our lives (John 17:3).

His disciples were his brothers and friends and Jesus was worried about them, because he knew that difficult times would come as his crucifixion approached and they would be hated and persecuted for the sake of the gospel. Jesus knew that life in the world was difficult.

Can you share an occasion where you've had a difficult time? Did anyone pray for you? How did you feel? if no one did, would you have liked someone to have done it?

(Encourage children to share their experiences)

Jesus prayed for his disciples saying, "And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are." (John 17:11)

On that occasion Jesus also prayed for us. Imagine how important we are to Him!

He prayed for you and me more than 2,000 years ago. How much love God and His Son have for us! Jesus loves us more than anyone else.

God created us and knew everything that was going to happen to us. Therefore, Jesus prayed for us, he wants us to love each other and be united just as He and His Father (God) remain united.

He prayed, "I ask you all to live together. As you, Father, are in me and I in you, may they also be in us. In this way the world will believe that you have sent me" (John 17:21).

Application

God wants us to pray for others just as we pray for ourselves.

Ask the children to mention a need for which they can pray on behalf of their friends and family.

To conclude this activity, provide each child with a heart. Ask to fill in the first blank with the name of someone you want to pray for this week. Then in the second space, ask him to write down how he will show his love to that person.

Encourage them to choose someone with whom they usually haven't shown much affection. Pray together asking God to help the children show love to the chosen person.

Encourage them to put their hearts in a visible place in their home, as a reminder of what God expects of them.

Front



Back



Conclusion

Jesus feels the confidence and security of being heard by his Father and is confident that He will help him. We too can approach God with confidence to thank (for food, for health, for school, for the teacher, for the church, etc.), to ask for forgiveness and ask for His help for us, our family, friends, for those who have problems and for those who do not know they dream of Jesus.

Praying for others is an expression of love and unity, it makes us feel closer to each other.