

Pre-Lesson Downloads

#23 *Jesus' Teaches us to Pray*

Find recorded lessons at - [MonteVista.org/Vista Stream](http://MonteVista.org/VistaStream)

Also find our online worship services at the same site.

Dear Families: I pray you are all remembering God's love, care, and protection for each one of us as we go through these unprecedented times. God doesn't always answer our every prayer yes, but I know He/She listens to our every concern and keeps them deep within Her/His heart. I have found that no matter how old I get, I still learn more and more as I read and study God's Word and pray. As a child I thought that when I became a grownup I would "know it all." What a shocker it was finding out the opposite is true: the more I learn, the more I see that I don't know. A scripture I cling to is in Hebrews 11:1 – "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." I am learning to trust God more and more, and therein lies peace. God Bless you and your family.

Bible Text: Matthew 6:5-14

And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your (heavenly) Father (Mother) who is in secret: and your Father (Mother) who sees in secret will reward you. When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father (Mother) knows what you need before you ask Him (Her). Pray then in this way:

Our Father (Mother) in heaven, hallowed (holy) be Your name.
Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from evil.

[*For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever,] Amen

For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father (Mother) will also forgive you; but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father (Mother) forgive your trespasses.

(Note: Many people learned the Lord's Prayer from the King James Version – "Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. [*For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. (added to later manuscripts)] Amen.

Memorizing the Lord's prayer is a great thing to do. Having God's Word in our minds is an easy way God can speak to us. But, that is not all. Understanding what is being said also helps us to form our own prayers:

- "Our Father (Mother) who is in heaven" We are talking to the almighty creator of heaven & earth!
- "Hallowed be Thy Name" God is Holiness itself & we show the respect & honor that God deserves.
- "Your Kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven" We await God's coming back to redeem us and ask for His will. God's will so often better than ours because we are so loved by Her.
- "Give us this day our daily bread." Each day is a gift and God loves to provide for our every need.
- "Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us." Hard to do, but God shows mercy to us in the same way that we show mercy to others. God gave us **great** love. We are suppose to share it.
- "And do not bring us into the time of trial, but deliver us from evil." This make me think of angels.

Bible Verse:

Lord, hear me when I call, have mercy and answer me.

Psalms 27:7

I chose this verse because I wanted us to teach the children that prayer is not like a grocery list of things that one picks up at the store. God answers our prayers thoughtfully and lovingly, doing what is best for us and those around us. I found a poem online that expresses this so well:

God is always faithful to answer.

**Sometimes His answer is a much desired, "yes."*

**Sometimes Her answer is a merciful, "no."*

**Sometimes His answer is a faith-building, "not yet."*

**Sometimes. . . sometimes when Her answer cannot be found,
the answer is simply, "Trust Me."*

Materials:

*I provided several different ways to teach children to pray. There are two 5-finger prayers. These help younger children to know what to pray for. There are others that are geared toward older children. There were so many online that I just had to choose a few. Feel free to look online to see if any are more to your liking. When children are very young you might find a 3 or 4 item list. I chose one that includes a child's worries. Please forgive me if you already know this suggestion. I didn't know it when I was a young parent. I found that if I showed too much emotion when a child shared something that was bothering them or that frightened them, they would shut down. They wanted quiet easy questions and discussion. Then they felt safer talking about it. If you already knew this or had figured this out, then Praise God.

*I placed more ideas in the packets than usual. There were just so many great ideas. Remember that your child does not have to do them all, especially right after the lesson. Maybe you could spread the activities throughout the week:

*Prayer Cube: I found meal-time prayers for this. Tape or glue one prayer to each face of the cube, or use your own ideas. Cut, fold and glue or tape the paper into a cube shape. At each meal have a member of the family, or a guest, toss the cube like a die. Whichever pray is on top is the prayer that all recite together or that the one who is the tosser says. Modeling what you are trying to teach a child the most effective method to do that. The meal prayers are short and easy and take up very little time.

*1 song prayer *1 art prayer idea-Hold My Hand (Using pictures and art is a great way to pray!)

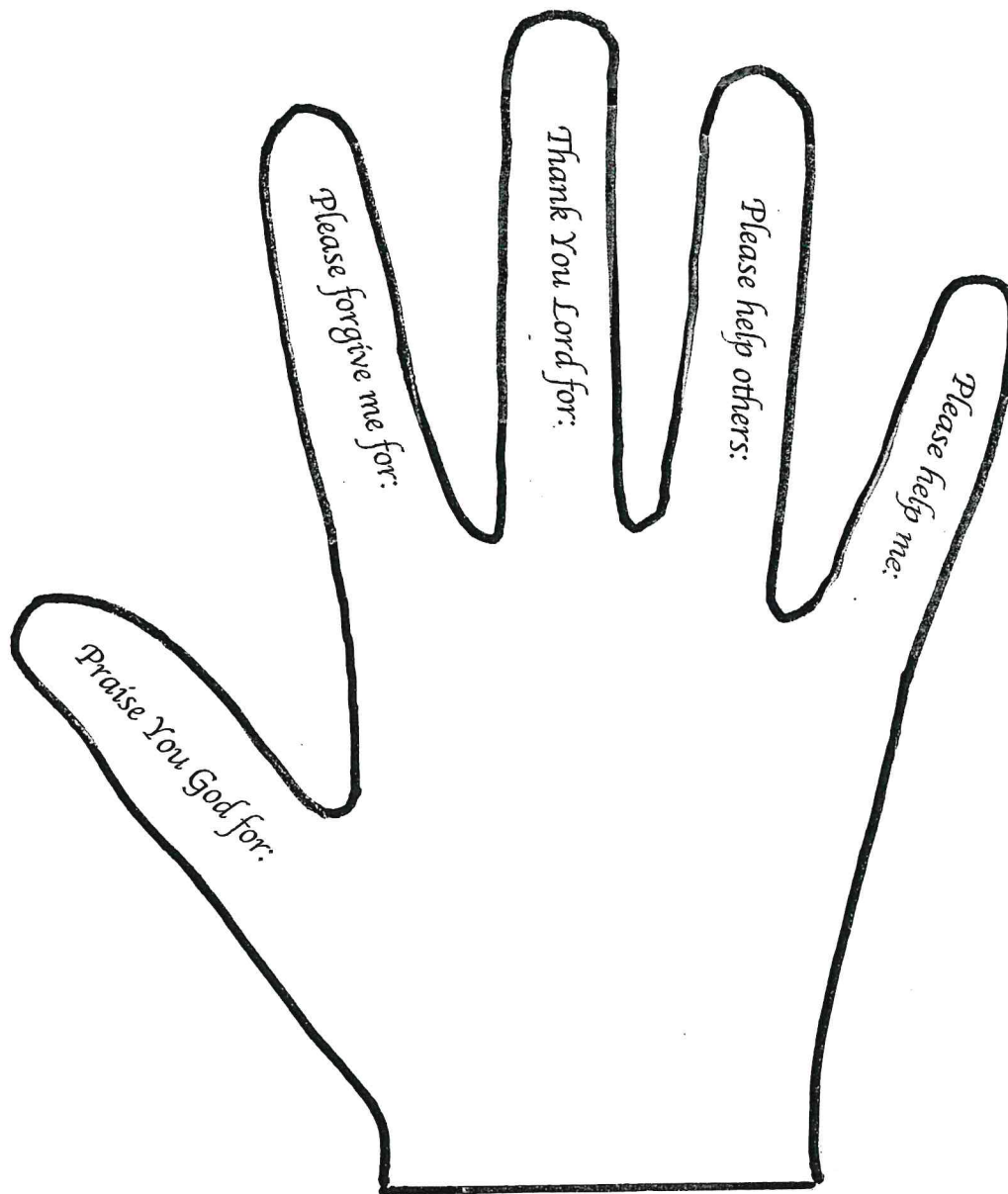
*3 prayer pages to fill out (One a week, or the same one every week? However you think is best.)

*4 pages of written puzzles *Game-type idea: The Bible tells us not to show off our prayers, to make others think that we are better than other people. He/She tells us to go into a private place and just concentrate on God and what we want/need to say to Her/Him. Children love to make forts. Have them make a small, simple fort in their rooms: a sheet over a small table, a blanket over two chairs, etc. *I know I went a little overboard, but variety keeps children engaged and serious things can also be fun sometimes. Prayer is so important in our relationships to God.

Picture Idea for the Verse:

Lord, hear me when I call, have mercy and answer me.

Psalms 27:7



The 5 Finger Prayer

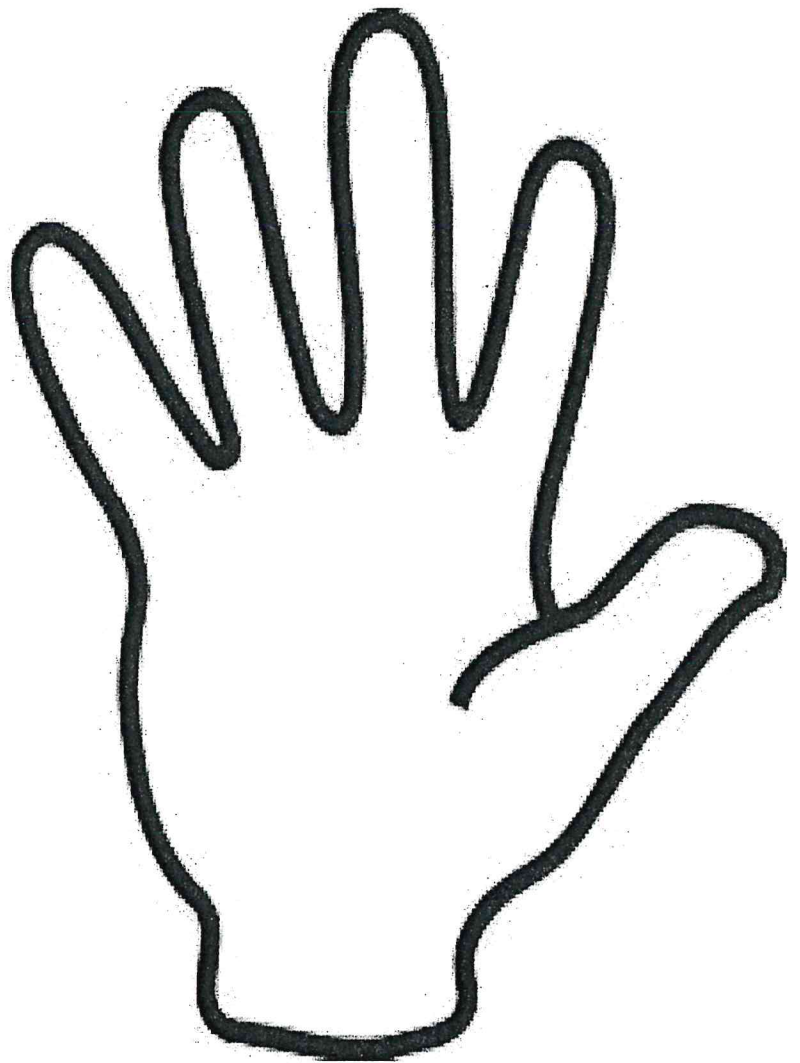
Thumb: Those closest to you, your family.

Pointer: Those that point you in the right direction (teachers, doctors, priests) ask for wisdom & support.

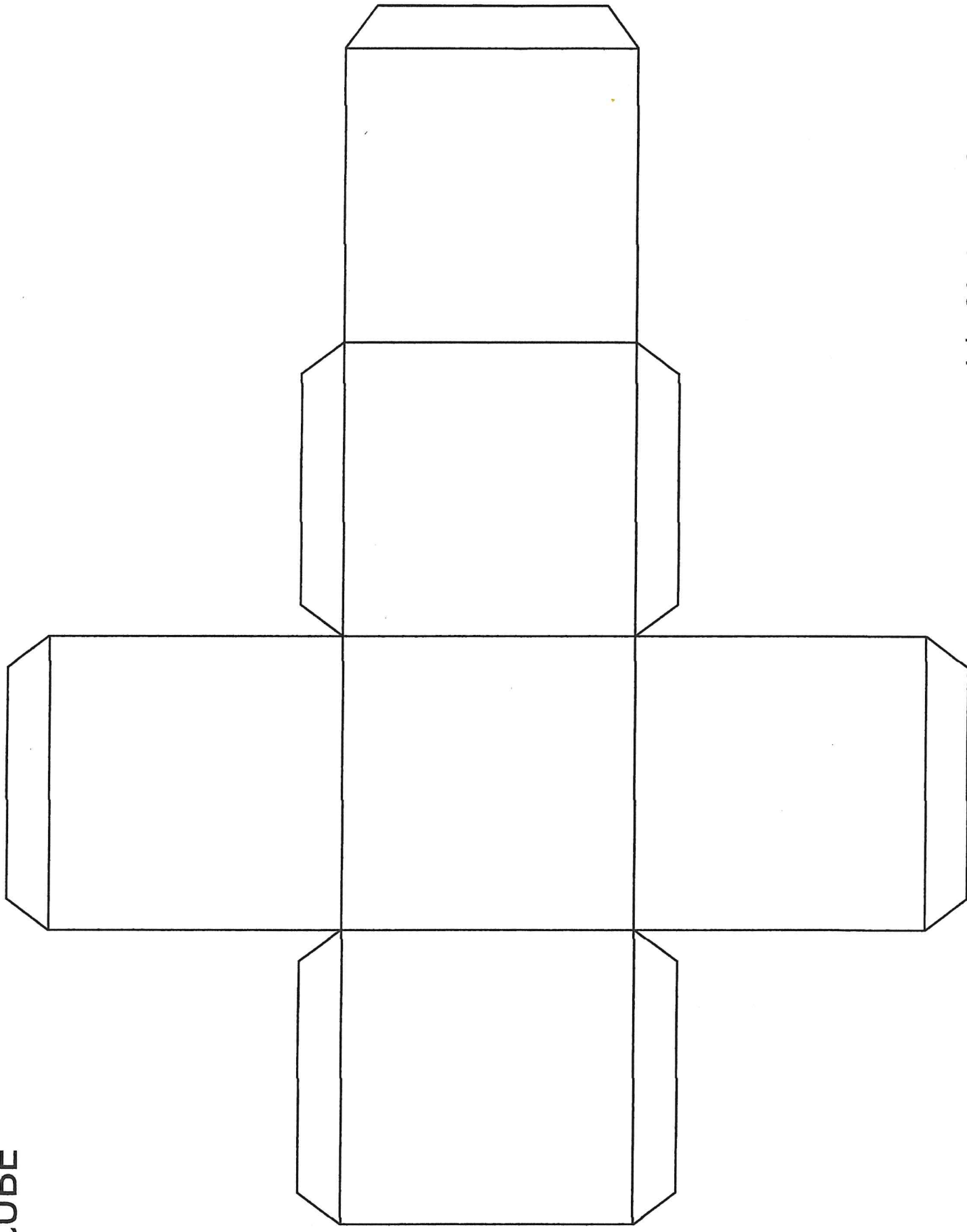
Index: (tallest) Those that lead us, (Government) ask for guidance & wisdom.

Ring: (weakest) Those that are weak, in trouble, or in pain. We cannot pray too much for them.

Pinkie: (smallest) Our prayers for ourselves & our own needs.



CUBE



*Below are meal-time prayers to place on the cube pattern I included. Use clear taped or glue, then fold it into a cube shape. Of course you may choose other prayers or make up your own. At each meal a different person tosses the cube. The prayer on top is the one used for that meal.

We Thank you Lord:
For the food before us,
The shelter around us,
The love between us.
Amen

Thank you God for
food and prayer.
Teach us how to
love
and share.
Amen

Bless us, O Lord,
and these Your gifts
which we are about to
receive from Your
bounty,
through Christ our
Lord.
Amen

Thank You for
the food we eat.
Thank You for
the world so sweet.
Thank You for
the birds that sing.
Thank You God
for everything.
Amen

Come, Lord Jesus;
Be our guest.
Let this food
to us be blessed.
Amen

Dear God,
I am thankful for
all You give:
for food, for love,
a place to live.
I thank You for
my family too.
I want You to know
that I love You!
Amen

Song Prayers:

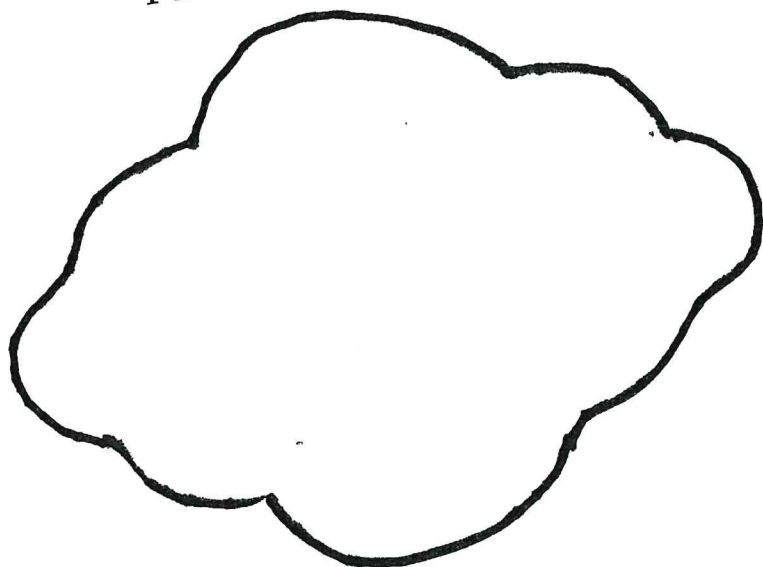
Let's Be Thankful

(To the tune of "Twinkle, Twinkle")

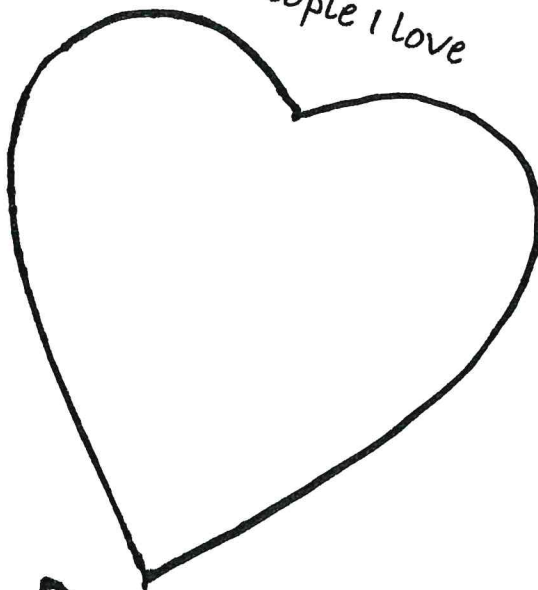
Let's be thankful for this day,
for our friends and for our play.
Let's be thankful, let's be glad,
for the food and things we have.
Let's give thanks for you and me,
and our home and family.

Prayer Ideas

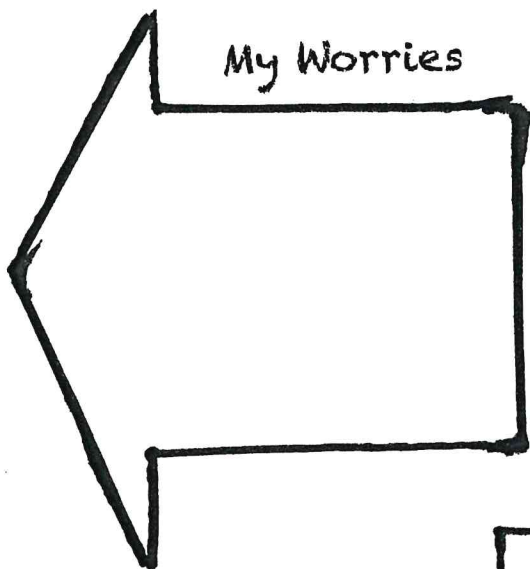
I am thankful for ...



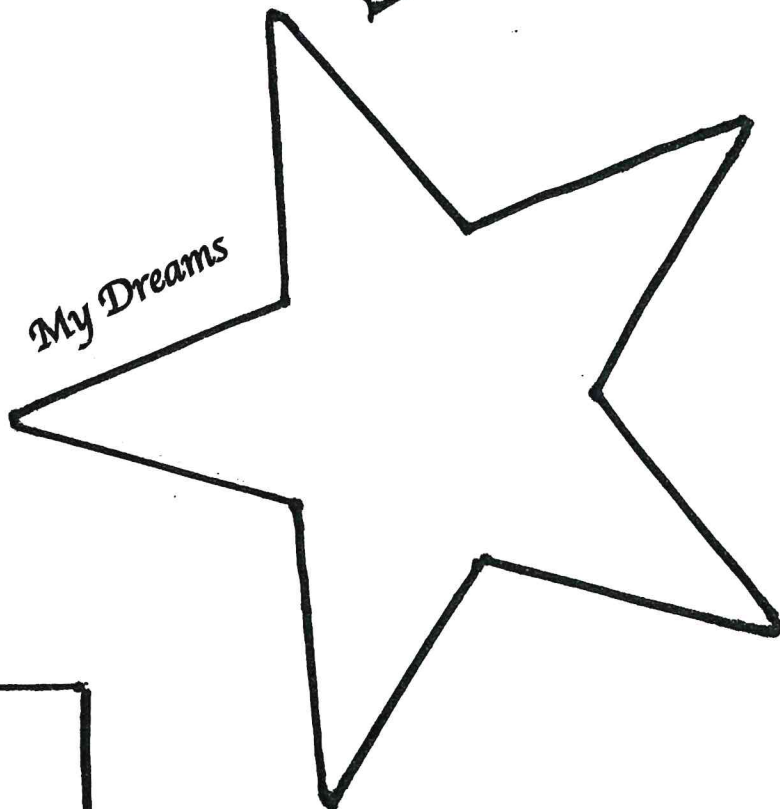
People I love



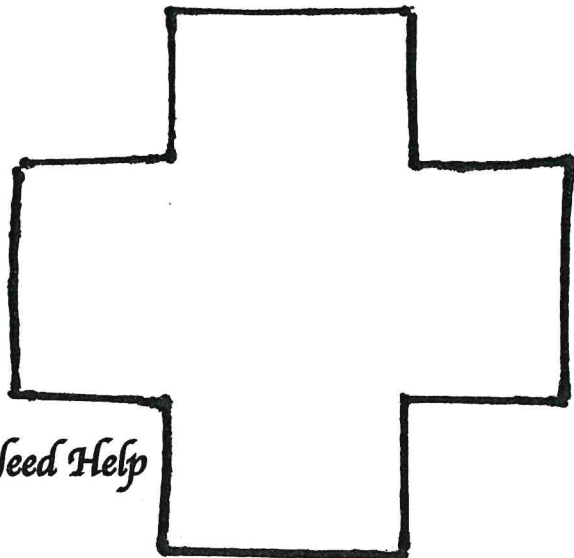
My Worries



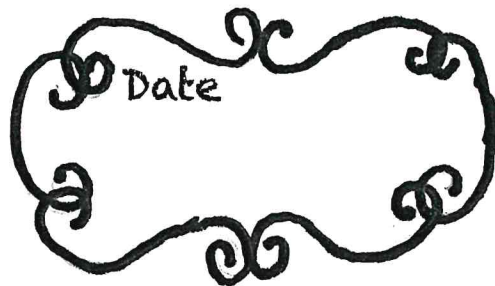
My Dreams



People Who Need Help

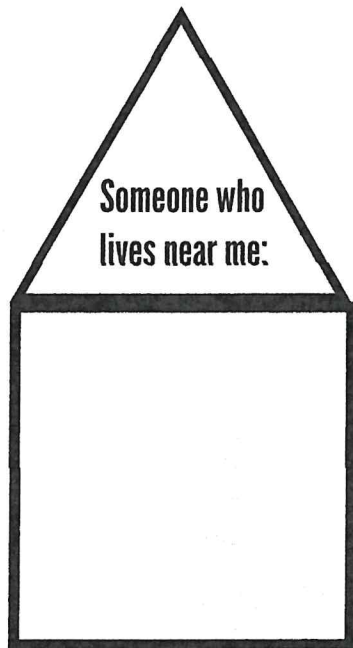


Date



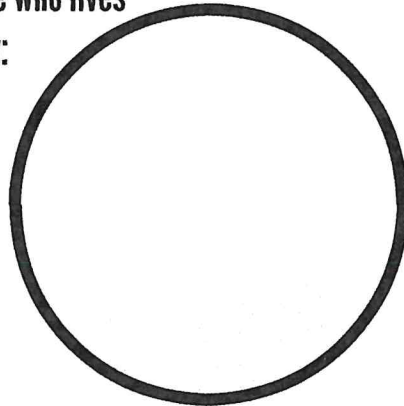
I will pray for . . .

Someone Bigger Than Me:

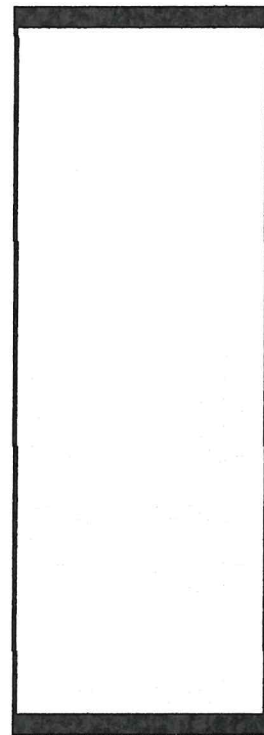
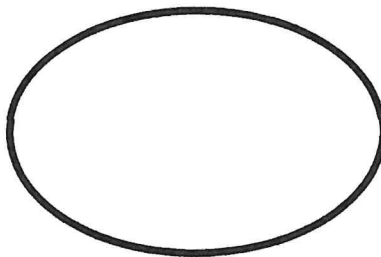


Someone who
lives near me:

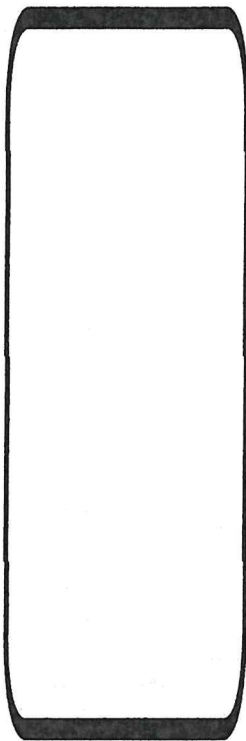
Someone who lives
far away:



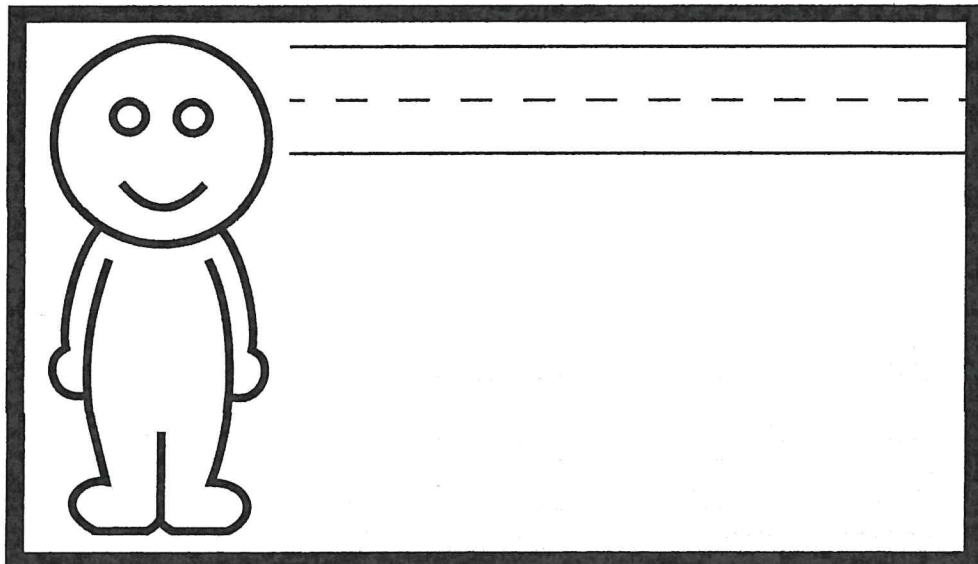
Someone Smaller Than Me:



Someone I've never met:



Myself!!



MY WORLD:

This month, I will pray for the country
of _____
These are some of the things I will
pray about:

MONDAY

MY community:

This is what I
will pray about
for my
community:

WEDNESDAY

WHAT I AM

THANKFUL FOR
THIS MONTH:

SATURDAY

MY country:

I will pray for my own
country! These are some
of the things I will pray
about this month:

TUESDAY

MY FRIENDS:

This month I will pray
for _____
These are the things I
will pray about:

THURSDAY

WHAT I HAVE
LEARNED ABOUT
GOD THIS MONTH:

MY FAMILY:

This month I will
pray for:

FRIDAY

SUNDAY

(For a smaller hand.)

Hold my hand Lord, lead the way.

Help me be good every day.

Let me know what's wrong and right.

Keep me safe all through the night.

Let me know what You have planned.

Lead the way Lord;

Hold my hand.

Amen

1. Cut out hand print
or trace
your hand
and cut
out.

2. Write,
or cut and
glue words
to palm.

Hold My Hand Prayer

(For an adult-sized hand.)

Hold my hand Lord, lead the way.

Help me be good every day.

Let me know what's wrong and right.

Keep me safe all through the night.

Let me know what You have planned.

Lead the way Lord;

Hold my hand.

Amen

3. Decorate:
stickers, markers,
crayons, glitter(?)

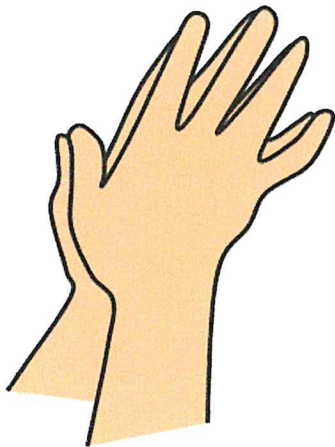
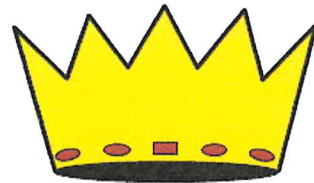
Lord's Prayer Word Search

T V S I M P L E

Y A R P T U K Y

Z P O W E R S E

S D N A H R A S



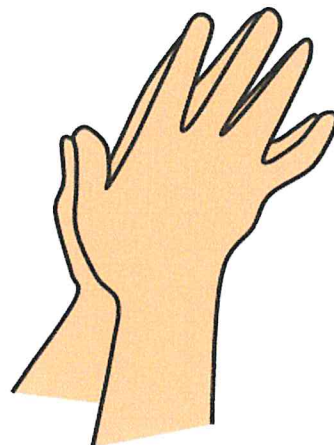
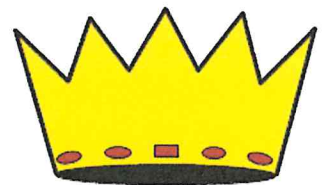
ASK
EYES
HANDS
POWER
PRAY
SIMPLE

Lord's Prayer Word Search

A N L N S S E N E V I G R O F
N T A L K T D A N L H V O R P
Y E V E I L E B N H P A E Z R
T Y A R P B U H E Y E M N Q A
I L I S T E N S C Y W A A D I
M U F E E L P M I S E H V X S
E T E M P T A T I O N S E E E
C O M M U N I C A T E A S R N
S R A E H P O W E R G Y S X E
D A I L Y F I Q Q Y M G U K X

ANYTIME
ANYWHERE
ASK
BELIEVE
COMMUNICATE
DAILY
EXAMPLE
EYES
FORGIVENESS
HANDS

HEARS
HEAVEN
LISTENS
POWER
PRAISE
PRAY
SIMPLE
TALK
TEMPTATIONS



Unscramble the letters to find the words in our

Lord's Prayer Anagram

- Word List:**

anytime, anywhere, communicate, daily bread,
example, forgiveness, heaven, power, simple,
temptations.



aeelmpx _____

eilmps _____

aeehn v _____

adily abder _____

eefginorssv _____

aeimnopsttt _____

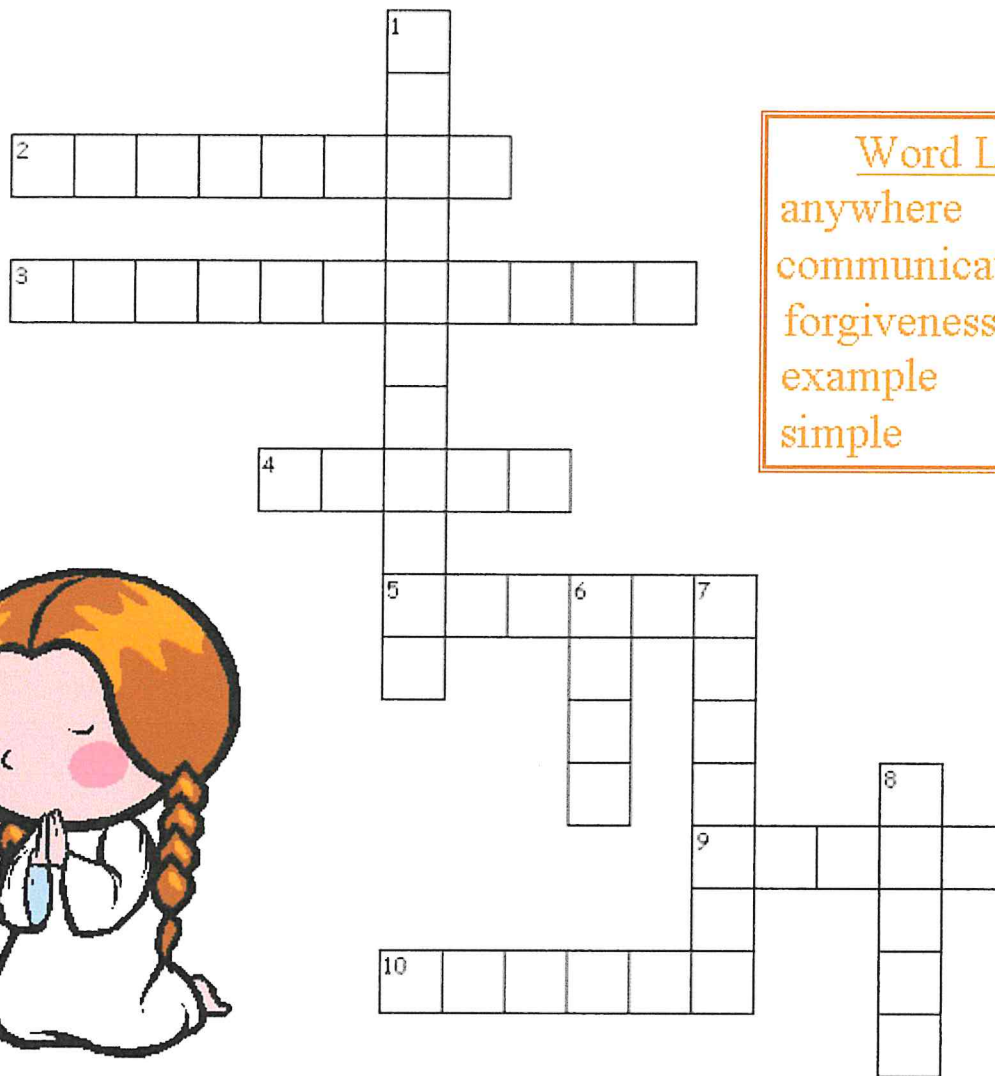
eopr w _____

aeimnty _____

acceimmnotu _____

aeehn rwy _____

Lord's Prayer Crossword



Across

2. We can pray anytime and ____.
3. Prayer is the special way we ____ with God.
4. We fold these out of respect and to avoid distraction when we pray.
5. Instead of using fancy words when we pray it's best to keep it this.
9. Praying has a lot of this because God can do anything.
10. Include this in your prayer to God because he deserves to hear it.

Down

1. An important part of prayer is to ask for this.
6. God wants us to do this all the time. When things are good and bad.
7. The Lord's Prayer is an ____ so we can know how to pray.
8. God always ____ us when we pray.

Answers to the puzzles:

T V S I M P L E
Y A R P T U K Y
Z P O W E R S E
S D N A H R A S

A N L N S S E N E V I G R O F
N T A L K T D A N L H V O R P
Y E V E I L E B N H R A E Z R
T Y A R P B U H E Y E M N Q A
L I S T E N S C Y W A A D
M U F E E L P M I S E H V X S
E T E M P T A T I O N S E E E
C O M M U N I C A T E A S R N
S R A E H P O W E R G Y S X E
D A I L Y F I Q Q Y M G U K X

aeelmpx example

eilmps simple

aeehnv heaven

adily abder daily bread

eefginorssv forgiveness

aeimnopsttt temptations

eoprw power

aeimnty anytime

acceimnotu communicate

aeehnrwy anywhere

