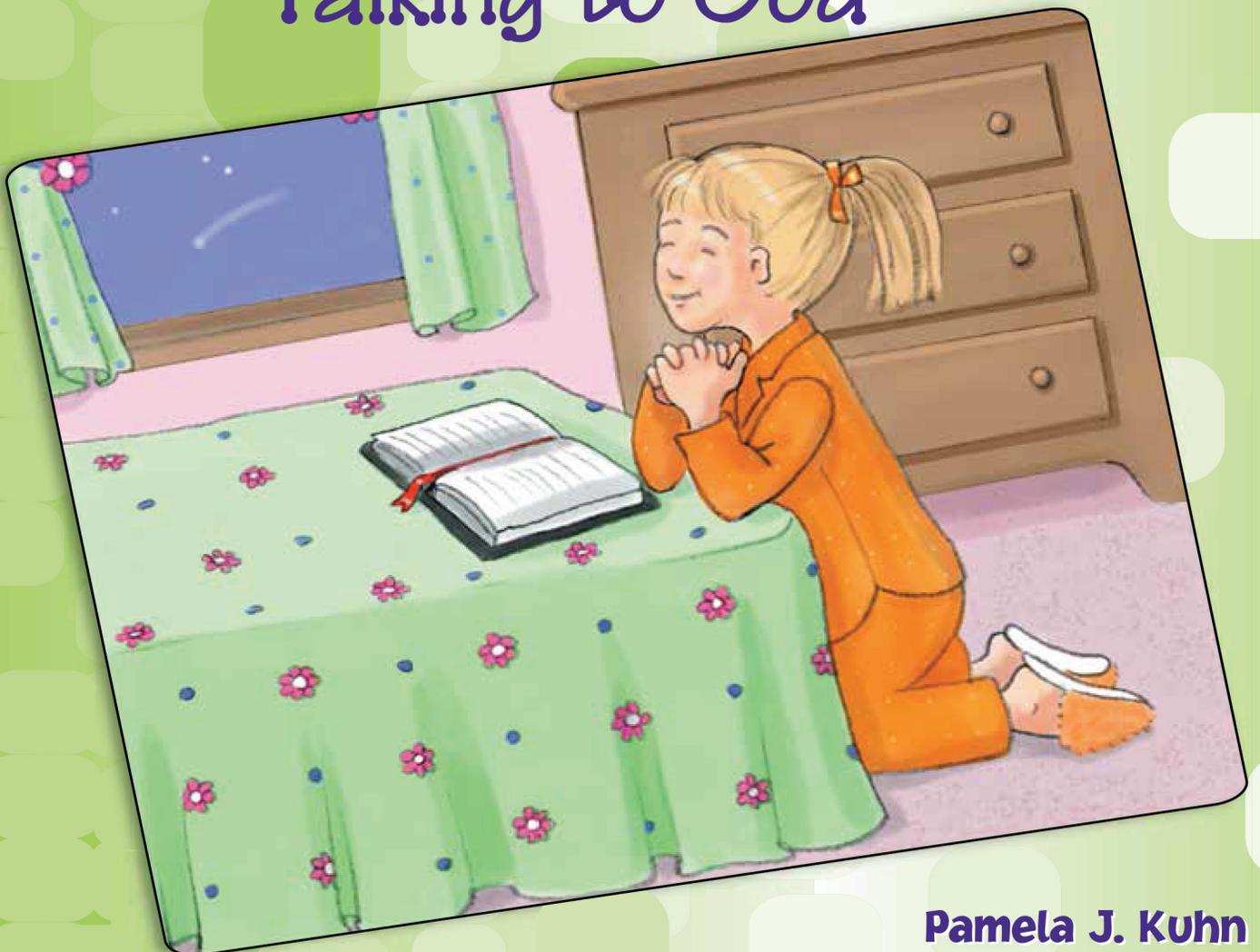


Reproducible

AGES 5-10

Instant Bible Lessons[®] Talking to God



Pamela J. Kuhn

Instant[®] Bible Lessons[®]

Talking to God

by Pamela J. Kuhn

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Dedicated to . . .

My sister, Melodie, and my soul friend, Shannon. Thanks for letting me brainstorm on your time (via fiber optics). Though you were many miles away, I could feel your prayers coming through the line to enlighten and energize my tired brain during computer shut-down.

Instant Bible Lessons: Talking to God

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Introduction

Do you want prayer to become an important part of your students' lives? If your answer is "yes," and I know it is, *Talking to God* is the book for you! With this book, you will introduce your students to Jesus' example in prayer, a consistent daily talk with God. Watch prayer become exciting for your class as they don their "robes" and listen to the story of the prodigal son, play a game of verse badminton or become involved in a skit. *Talking to God* contains dozens of activities to encourage prayer. Each of the first eight chapters includes a Bible story, memory verse and numerous activities to help reinforce the truth in the lesson. An additional chapter contains miscellaneous projects that can be used anytime throughout the study. Teacher aids are also sprinkled throughout the book, including bulletin board ideas and discussion starters.

As you work through the lessons, you may use your own judgment as to the appropriateness of the projects for your class. Everything in this book is designed to meet the 5 to 10 age range, however some activities may be more appealing to a younger group while others will more readily meet the abilities of older children.

The most exciting aspect of the *Instant Bible Lessons* series, which includes *God's Angels*, *Bible Truths* and *Virtues and Values* as well as *Talking to God*, is its flexibility. You can easily adapt these lessons to a Sunday School hour, a children's church service, a Wednesday night Bible study or home use. And, because there is a variety of reproducible ideas from which to choose (see below), you will enjoy creating a class session that is best for your group of students—whether large or small, beginning or advanced, active or studious. Plus, the intriguing topics will keep your kids coming back for more, week after week.

While I'm hoping this book will be a tool through which your class will learn, nothing takes the place of your own prayers for the students. As God blesses your innovative methods and the faithful teaching of your class, you can pray with Mary: "My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior" (Luke 1:46-47).

How to Use This Book

Each chapter begins with a Bible story which you may read to your class, followed by discussion questions. Then, use any or all of the activities in the chapter to help drive home the message of that lesson. All of the activities are tagged with one of the icons below, so you can quickly flip through the chapter and select the projects you need. Simply cut off the teacher instructions on the pages and duplicate as desired. Also, see pages 87 and 88 for reproducible notes you can fill in and send home to parents.



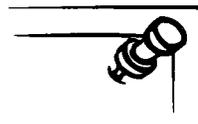
craft



skit



teacher help



bulletin board



activity



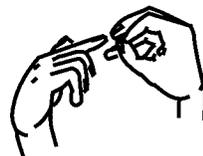
puzzle



action rhyme



song



finger play



game



snack

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Chapter 1

God Hears My Prayers

Memory Verse

In the morning, O Lord, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait in expectation. Psalm 5:3

Story to Share

Jesus' Example

Jesus and four of His friends, Simon Peter, Andrew, James and John, were in Capernaum. It was the Sabbath so Jesus was teaching in the temple. The crowd was large because the people loved listening to Jesus teach.



Suddenly, a voice out of the crowd called out, “Let us alone! What do You want to do with us? I know who You are, You are Jesus of Nazareth, the Holy One of God!”

As the people looked around to see who it was, they saw a man with an evil spirit. Jesus did not even hesitate. He just spoke to the evil spirit. “Be quiet,” He commanded. “Come out of him at once.”

The man began to shake as the evil spirit, with a shriek, left him. The crowd was surprised. They had seen some of Jesus' miracles, but never before had they seen anyone with power to command evil spirits to depart.

Leaving the synagogue, Jesus went to the home of Simon and Andrew. Simon's mother-in-law was very ill with fever. Jesus gently reached for the sick woman's hand and lifted her up. Immediately, her fever left her and the family watched with joy as she helped prepare the meal for her guests.

Soon, others were coming to be healed. Crippled, blind, sick — they all came to see Jesus. Jesus loved helping people and spent a busy night healing.

How tired Jesus was! He slept only a few hours, though. There was something that was more important to Him than even sleep. Quietly, Jesus got up and made His way out of the city. He found a quiet place where He could be alone to talk with His Heavenly Father. He prayed for help and strength. God had given Him work to do and He needed help to carry it out.

Soon the disciples came looking for Jesus. Already people were wanting to be taught and healed. Now Jesus felt ready to give help where He was needed — He had talked to God.

— based on Mark 1:29-39

Questions for Discussion

1. Is morning the only time we should pray? What other times could we pray?
2. When do you like to pray?



game



Materials

- letters, duplicated
- scissors

Directions

1. Cut out the lettered squares and mix them up.
2. Line up the children in a straight line.
3. Without looking, choose a card.
4. Call out, "I am praying for someone with R." Everyone who has the letter R in their name takes one giant step forward and says the memory verse. Continue until all of the letters are used or one student reaches a designated finish line.

Memory Verse Walk

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

**God Hears
My Prayers**

A Prayer for Me Each Day

A prayer for me each day,
A prayer for me each day,
Hallelujah, Praise the Lord,
A prayer for me each day.

Each day I pray for _____,
Each day I pray for _____,
Hallelujah, Praise the Lord,
Each day I pray for _____.



song



Directions

Sing to the tune of "The Farmer In The Dell." Select a child and form a circle around him or her. That child prays for someone in the room and that person joins him or her in the circle while the rest of the class skips around them. Continue until each child has been included in the middle. Note: If you notice one child is always picked last for games, let that child be "It" first so he or she may do the picking!

**God Hears
My Prayers**



craft



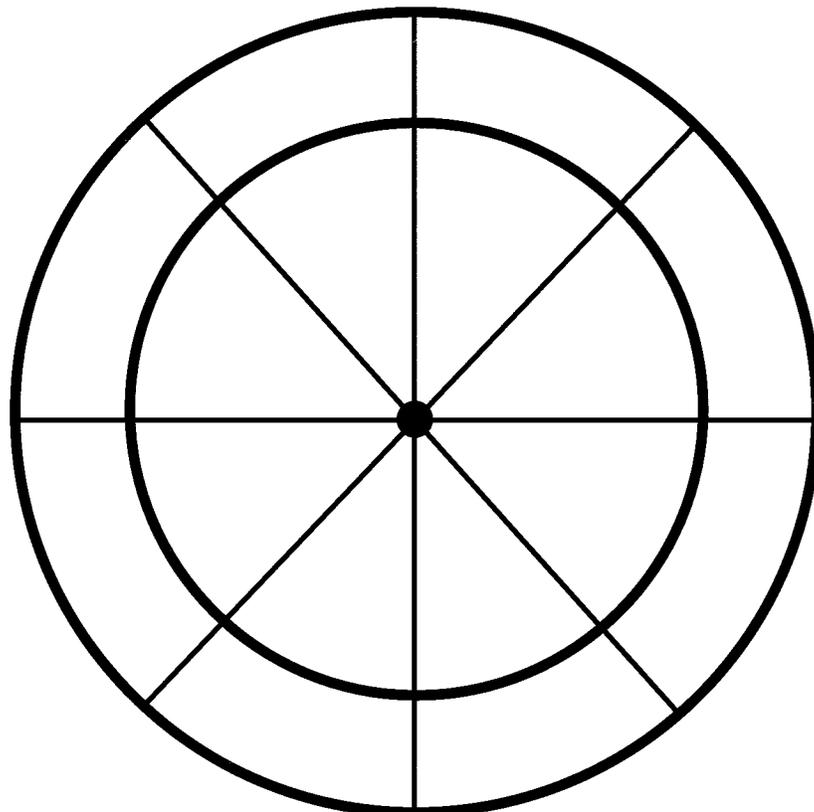
Materials

- circle patterns, duplicated
- black markers
- crayons
- pencils
- scissors
- paper fasteners

Directions

1. Have the students cut out the circles on the outer lines.
2. On the rim of the bottom circle, the children should write the names of eight people for whom they will pray.
3. In the pie sections, have them write for what they will be praying.
4. Allow the class to color the circles.
5. Show how to join the circles with a paper fastener in the center.
6. Show how to cut out the V section on the top circle.
7. Demonstrate how to move the circles.
8. Say, **As you pray, turn the dial and pray for someone different.**

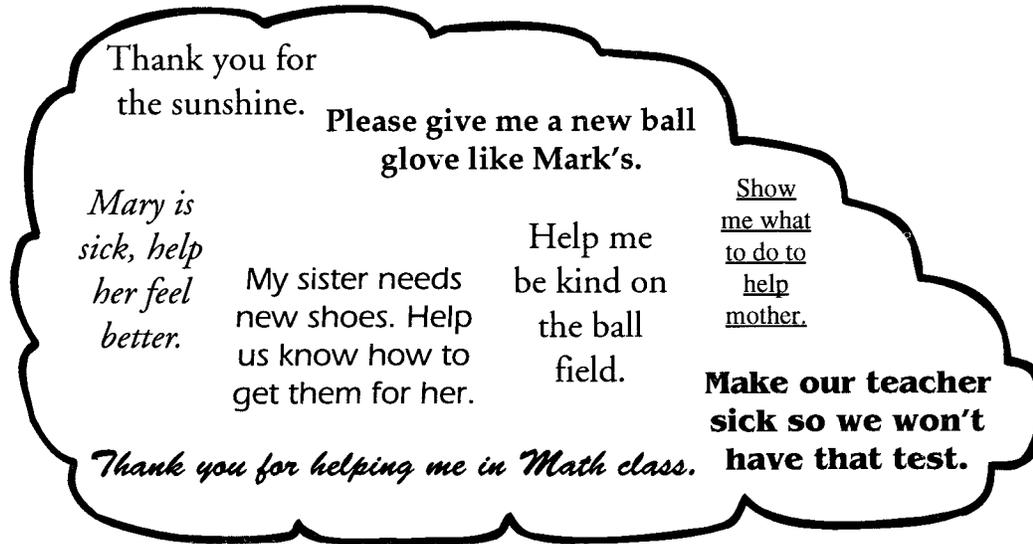
My Prayer Circle



**God Hears
My Prayers**

Selfish or Unselfish?

Jordon is having his prayer time.
Help him pray correctly by crossing out the selfish thoughts and drawing a heart around the good prayers.



activity



Materials

- activity, duplicated
- pencils

Discuss

Say, Should we always be asking God for things for ourselves? Such as: "Lord, I just have to have that new bike like Tommy's" or "Let me beat Carol in the race." Let's be careful that our prayers are unselfish. It is our privilege to pray. Let's keep selfishness out of them. And don't forget to thank God for what He has already done.

I Will, Too



craft/song



Materials

- illustration, duplicated
- crayons
- scissors

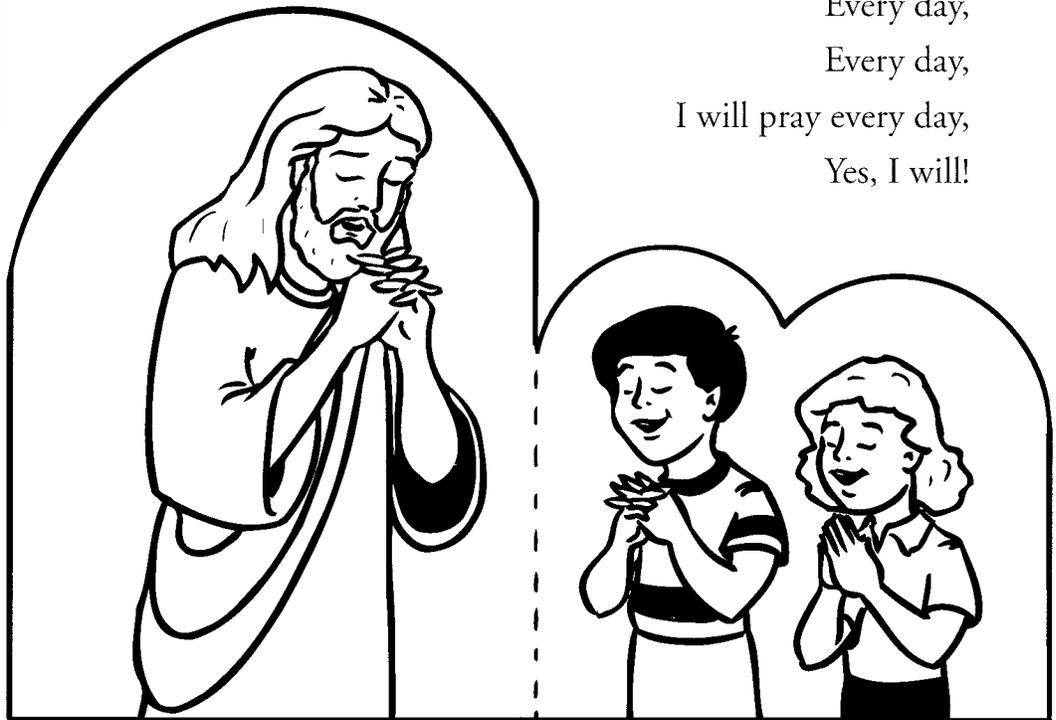
Directions

1. Have the children color and cut out the picture on the outer solid lines.
2. Show how to fold the illustration on the dashed line, placing the children in the back and showing Jesus only.
3. Sing the song to the tune of "London Bridge Is Falling Down."
4. On the second verse, have everyone move the children flap forward.



Jesus prayed alone with God,
Alone with God,
Alone with God,
Jesus prayed alone with God,
I will, too!

I will pray every day,
Every day,
Every day,
I will pray every day,
Yes, I will!



**God Hears
My Prayers**

Yep or Naw

**Yep,
That's true!**

**Naw,
That's false!**

Questions and Answers

1. Jesus and His friends were in New York City. *They were in Capernaum.*
2. Jesus was teaching in the temple. *true*
3. The crowd loved hearing Jesus teach. *true*
4. A pig came into the temple. *A man with an evil spirit was in the temple.*
5. Jesus told the evil spirit to "Be quiet, come out of him at once." *true*
6. The evil spirit told Jesus to sit down and be quiet. *The evil spirit obeyed Jesus.*
7. Jesus went to the home of the president. *He went to Simon and Andrew's.*
8. Simon's baby boy was sick. *His mother-in-law was sick.*
9. Jesus healed the sick woman. *true*
10. Jesus went to the doughnut store for breakfast. *He went out of the city to pray.*
11. Jesus needed to talk to God for strength. *true*
12. We should talk to God each day. *true*



game



Materials

- signs, duplicated

Directions

Duplicate (and enlarge, if possible) the cards at left to colored or heavy paper. Divide the class into two teams. Read the statements at the bottom left. Select a leader for each team to hold the team's sign when they stand. Switch sides halfway through so both groups can have a turn at each response.

**God Hears
My Prayers**

Bible Food



snack



Materials

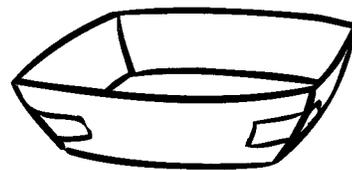
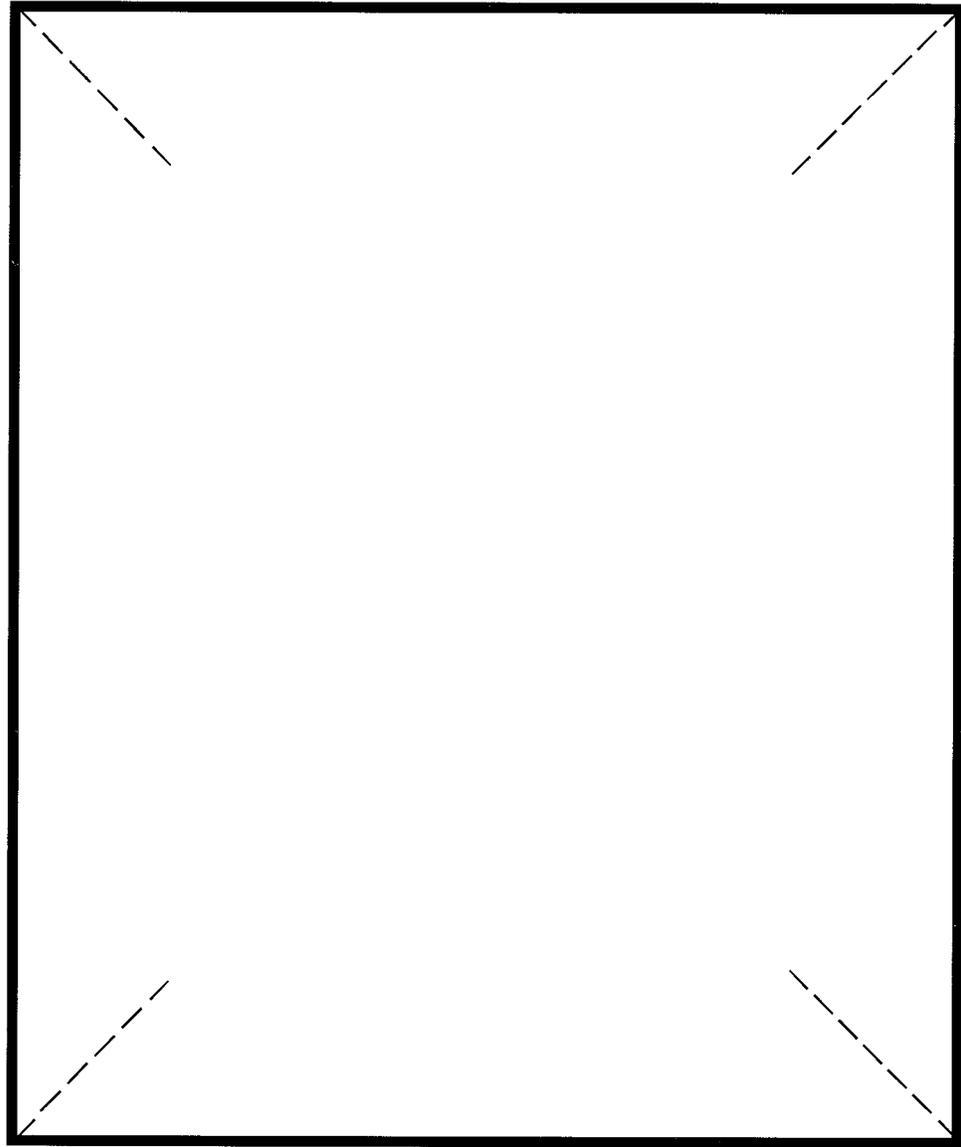
- square, duplicated
- scissors
- glue or tape
- colored pencils
- whole dates filled with peanut butter
- powdered sugar
- waxed paper

Directions

1. Have the students cut out the square and make a cut at each corner's dashed lines.
2. Show how to pull each corner's two tabs on top of each other and glue or tape at each corner.
3. Allow the children to decorate their bowls using colored pencils.
4. Place a square of waxed paper with powdered sugar on it in each child's bowl, and allow them to roll the peanut butter dates in the sugar, then eat them.

Discuss

Ask, What do you think Simon's mother-in-law served Jesus? It is very likely that they ate dates like these!



finished bowl

**God Hears
My Prayers**

