

teachkidsto Pray

Teaching kids to pray is more than just opening class with prayer or saying memorized prayers at different times. It's about showing them how to have a conversation with God, a talk-and-listen relationship with him, and the strength that comes from knowing that He hears and answers us.

think about your experiences with prayer as a child...

- Did you hear anyone in your house praying when you were a child?
- What is your memory of the sound of prayer?
- When do you remember first praying?
- What were your first prayers as a child?

ages & stages

preschool (ages 3-4)

what we know about this age:

- Egocentric
- Very literal
- Believe what they are told
- Boys and girls play together

...when you pray with them:

lower elementary (ages 5-7)

what we know about this age:

There may be a little carry over from the preschool characteristics

- They believe what they are told
- Still have some egocentric tendencies
- Faith is very easy for them
- Boys and girls will play together
- What do you know about this age?

...when you pray with them:

middle elementary (ages 7-9)

what we know about this age:

- They are concerned with everything being fair, people being treated fairly
- They are in the “dramatic” phase of their life
- Boys and girls don’t generally mix much
- They begin to question their parent’s authority and many times shift that loyalty to a teacher
- What do you know about this age?

...when you pray with them:

upper elementary (ages 10-12)

what we know about this age:

- They may be all over the place as far as how they respond to prayer time (they are all over the place as how they respond to life)
- They are questioning everything: parents, friends, teachers and faith
- Some will begin to be very focused on appearance, opposite sex, etc
- They embarrass very easily
- They don’t want to be thought of as a baby
- What do you know about this age?

...when you pray with them:

pray how you learn

We don’t learn the same and we don’t enjoy prayer the same. Here is a list of Prayer Styles.

Use this list to match the with the learning style list below.

- List Intercessor: love to pray from a list
- Scripture intercessor: love to pray scripture back to God
- Evangelism intercessor: love to pray for people who need Christ
- Administrative intercessor: love to organize others to pray
- Special-Assignment intercessor: love to pray for VIP’s or Special Events
- Crisis intercessor: loves to be “on call” to pray for a crisis
- Mercy intercessor: loves to pray for God’s mercy on a situation-you feel for those you pray for
- Nations intercessor: love to pray for different cultures and God’s moving there
- Warfare intercessor: love to pray for the plans of the enemy to be thwarted
- Issues intercessor: love to pray for thing heard in the news
- Worship intercessor: love to sing their prayers
- Flexible intercessor: love to pray wherever they are needed

Learning Style

Prayer Style

Word Smart

Loves words, listening, reading
memorizing

Picture Smart

Loves creating art, using
imagination

Music Smart

Loves music, rhythm, power of
music

Logic Smart

Loves problem-solving,
numbers, organization

Body Smart

Athletic, good at crafts, learns
by moving

Nature Smart

Loves nature, the outdoors
and animals

Self Smart

Self motivated, aware of own
strengths and weaknesses,
desires alone time

People Smart

Loves people, Intuitive of
other's needs, friendly

equipping parents

be the go-to idea person to help parents pray with their kids at home

Ideas:

prayer ministry plan

begin your own prayer life

tell your supervisor or pastor

don't try to do too many things at once

think through how prayer with kids might look in your church

bring your students in on how God is leading you
(they'll love being part of something God is doing!)

keep records of answers to prayer (it's powerful to SEE the answers!)

I'd love to help however I can!

Email: mary2sims@hotmail.com

Follow along on FB and Inst: KidminCompass

This workshop in its' original format is 2 hours in length. For info about bringing it to your church, contact me at the email address above.