



The Power of Prayer!

25.10.20

kidmaniaTM

NOTE TO PARENTS from Ps Luke Aiasecca

Thank you for the privilege of ministering to your family through Kidmania Online. Today's Kidmania Online episode was **The Power of Prayer!**

This parent info sheet can be used by you at home to support your Kidmania experience WITH your children and help them to get the most out of it.

The 'main ideas' section of this parent info sheet has been designed especially for you to enter into meaningful discussion with your children. This week the questions build one on another.

To help your children really share what is in their hearts and minds with you, and so YOU can actively build faith and wisdom into them, when it comes to the 'Ask' points, take care to not rush them... give them time to think and respond and really show them you are listening and that you understand.

We are here to support you! If you have any questions you would like to discuss please contact your location Kidmania co-ordinator or email me at luke.aiasecca@enjoy.church

God bless you!

Family Ice Breaker: Pr-air Hockey!

This is a fun way to introduce what you will be talking about as a family.

Today we watched as Ava Rose and Dion played Air Hockey.

You might like to play this at home.

You could do as we did and mark out the centre line and zones (with a grey lead pencil) on a table top, and a pool noodle cut down the centre to create bumpers (for the sides of the table). We used a fishing wire spool for a puck (it glided easily across the table) and disposable cups for paddles (to strike the puck with). You can use whatever you can find that works for you.

With a real air hockey table the puck almost floats on a stream of air. Our prayers are carried invisibly to God, and as we persist in prayer we know He will hear us – they will get through and not be blocked by our opponent/enemy who is Satan.

Whatever you do, have fun!

Scripture Memory Verses - to read and memorise at meal times

[use any version you like; we have provided the Amplified Version (AMP) in the Scripture readings in the family discussion notes as it has built into it much explanation. For memorisation (below) we have provided the simpler **New Living Translation (NLT)**]

James 4:8a

Come close to God, and God will come close to you.

Philippians 4:6

Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done.

James 5:15

Such a prayer offered in faith will heal the sick, and the Lord will make you well. And if you have committed any sins, you will be forgiven.

Acts 13:22

...David, a man about whom God said, 'I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart. He will do everything I want him to do.'



The Main Ideas for Family Discussion

Discussion introduction:

Ask: Do you like to talk with your friends?

If YES, ask: Is it on the phone, or Zoom? How else?

Ask: What are the kinds of things you might talk about?

Ask: What do you think your friendship would be like if you never spoke to each other? [not much of a friendship, not close]

Ask: Do you make time to speak with them?

If NO, ask: Why not? [they may be in need of help with connecting with their friends.]

If YES, ask: Why do you do that? [love and care for them, they are fun, want to know them more, etc.]

Say: Just like we make time to spend talking with people we love and care about, we need to make time to spend talking with God.

Ask: What is this called? [prayer/praying]

Say: Did you know that God created us to be able to communicate with Him? This is part of our purpose!

Ask: Why do you think prayer is part of our purpose? [it is one of the ways we get to know God better and be close to Him]

Scripture: James 4:8a

Say: In James 4:8a it says: **Come close to God [with a contrite heart] and He will come close to you.**

Ask: If I draw close to God, will He come close to me? [yes!]

Ask: If you draw close to God, will He come close to you? [yes!]

Say: Yes! God loves to hear our thoughts and our voices. He like to know what we thinking and feeling. He already knows without us telling Him, but He loves us so much He likes to give us His attention. He really cares!

Ask: Did you ever have any friends that you really wanted to invite to come with you wherever you go, and do with you the things that you are doing?

If YES, ask: Can you tell me about that?

Say: The more we spend time together, doing things together, the closer we feel we are to our friends and the more we want to know them. We have so much more to talk about too, because we are sharing our experience and remembering it together afterwards. And we love to help each other too, don't we?

Ask: Did you know that God feels the same way?

Say: He loves to be with you as you do things, and talk about it with you, afterwards. He loves to help you with what you are doing, and He loves to have your help in what He is doing - loving and saving the people in the church and in the world.

Ask: When you are with your friends, do you like it when they speak honestly with you?

Ask: When they are happy and have good news do you want them to share it with you?

Ask: When you know their feelings are hurt but they don't want to talk about it with you, how do you feel? [like we must not be very close after all, like I am not trusted, like they must feel like they need to hide their true feelings from me, like they are embarrassed and think I will judge them, etc.]

Say: When we are NOT honest with God we show Him we are NOT wanting to trust Him with our heart, that we feel embarrassed to be ourselves with Him, and that we don't want to be close to Him or let Him be close to us. God loves us and only wants to be our true friend.

Ask: What about when we are really angry? Does God want to be close to us then? [yes!]



...continued - the Main Ideas for Family Discussion

Say: God always wants to be close to us, and to let us tell Him why we are angry. He wants to help us with what is making us feel angry. He wants to help us handle it.

Ask: What about when we are really worried? Does God want to be close to us then? [yes!]

Say: God always wants to be close to us, and to help us, and give us His peace.

Scripture: Philippians 4:6

Say: In Philippians 4:6 it says: **Do not be anxious or worried about anything, but in everything [every circumstance and situation] by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, continue to make your [specific] requests known to God.**

Ask: What about when we are sick and we have a really yucky runny nose? Does God want to be close to us then? [yes!]

Say: God always wants to be close to us, and to help us get better.

Ask: What about when we have done something wrong? Does God want to be close to us then? [yes!]

Say: Whether we are happy or sad, whether we have done good or bad, the best thing we can do is pray!!

Ask: Why is that? [because God wants to forgive us, and help us.]

Scripture: James 5:15

Say: In James 5:15 it says: **and the prayer of faith will restore the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.**

Say: When we speak openly and honestly with God, and we don't try to hide from Him what is happening in our life, we invite Him in to our situation to help us change it and we get to feel His love. God wants to be the close friend we can trust; not because we have to, but because we want to.

Ask: Do you remember King David from the Bible?

If YES, ask: What can you remember about Him?

Say: King David was a shepherd boy whom God called to become the king of Israel. He killed lions and bears who wanted to eat his sheep. He killed the giant Goliath who was the enemy of his people with his sling and a stone. He led the Israelites in many battles. He had many enemies. He had victories and losses. He had happiness and sadness. He was bold at times, and he was very afraid at others.

Ask: Who do you think David turned to in all these times?

Say: Did you know that the book of Psalms is mostly David pouring out his heart, sharing all his thoughts and feelings with God, in poems and in songs? David shared his heart with God in good times and in bad times. David was someone who knew that God was the Creator, and the King, and the Judge, and his greatest and most trustworthy friend. David worshiped God through it all. He talked to God through it all. He asked for help a lot, and he always enjoyed it when God came close to him. The Bible tells us that God really enjoyed His time with David because David was a man after God's own heart (Acts 13:22). David wanted to spend time with God, know God's heart, and serve and bless God just as he was commanded to.

Say: Let's read that last verse again, in James 5:15: **and the prayer of FAITH will restore the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.**

Ask: What kind of prayer is needed? [a prayer of faith]

Say: David really trusted God with his heart and his life. He made many mistakes and needed to be forgiven. He needed lots of help to stay safe, and do well. He prayed a lot. He had great FAITH and he prayed really powerful prayers.

...continued - the Main Ideas for Family Discussion

Ask: How do you think he got so good at praying? [lots of practice, learning that the more he prayed the more he was helped by God, answered prayers led to more faith for future prayers, etc.]

Say: David had lots of practice praying, and from a young age, when he was just a little child. He would have noticed that the more he prayed the more he was helped by God. Answered prayers lead to more faith for future prayers.

Ask: Do you think David only prayed when he was full of faith, or do you think he would have sometimes prayed to God asking for more faith? [he would have prayed often and with any feeling, and he would have prayed asking for more faith when it was hard to believe.]

Say: David prayed often. He prayed when he was full of faith and when he needed more faith.

Say: We pray our prayers in the name of Jesus because that is what makes our prayers so powerful. Jesus is the name above all names, and He is the king of all kings, the lord of all lords, and the one and only savior. Our faith in Him is powerful because He is powerful.

Life Application:

Ask: Would you like to keep a little journal of your prayers, to remember what you have prayed, so you can remember how God has answered them?

If YES, say: All you need is a note book or an exercise book. On each page mark out 4 columns. Title them with:

1. Date.
2. My prayer.
3. How God answered.
4. Date of answer.

When you pray at night, think of all the prayers you said during the day, and think about all the prayers that were answered. Put the details in the columns. We will be so encouraged as we have our faith built (get stronger). [then, actually do this with them and please email Ps Luke or your location Kidmania co-ordinator with testimonies to encourage them in the faith and give glory to God! 😊]

Sum up:

Say: Say after me:

- * God is always with me!
- * God is always ready to forgive me and help me!
- * God loves to come close to me!
- * God loves it when I talk with Him about everything!
- * I can pray honestly about everything!
- * The more I pray the better I will get at praying!
- * Answered prayers will build my faith!
- * Prayers in Jesus' name are powerful prayers!

Let's Pray!

Ask: Are you ready to pray a powerful prayer with me?

Say: Dear Heavenly Father... Thank You for being such a good God. Please stir up faith in us as we pray. We thank you that as we talk with you more and more our friendship with you will get closer and deeper. Help me to always remember that I can always talk with you ...in Jesus' name, Amen!

Looking forward to next week!

Say: Today we looked at WHAT prayer is and WHY we pray. Next week we are going to look into how some more people in the Bible prayed, and how Jesus taught His disciples to pray.

