

## 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 *How to Pray!*

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](mailto:luke.aiasecca@enjoy.church)

God bless you!

## Family Ice Breaker – A Pattern, back together, in order!

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

Today we watched as Jordan and Isaac played **A PATTERN GAME**. They needed to watch for a number pattern, and then repeat the pattern once the numbers disappeared.

*You might like to try this at home.* You could do as we did and use a phone app. You could also say a number sequence out loud and ask your kids to repeat them back to you. You could start with 3 numbers and build to 7 numbers at a time.

We also watched as Ashton put the Lord's prayer **BACK TOGETHER, IN ORDER**, using cards with sentence fragments from Matthew 6:9-13.

*You might like to try this at home.* You could do as we did and print out sentence fragments on whole pages or you could simply write the sentence fragments on small strips of paper.

Whatever you do, have fun!

## Scripture Memory Verses - to read and memorise at meal times

[ use any version you like; we have used a combination of versions/translations/paraphrases to help your child best understand the meaning of the passages and apply it to their lives NOW ]

### Hebrews 1:14

All the angels are ministering spirits sent out by God to serve, accompany, and protect those who will inherit salvation.

### Psalm 5:3

In the morning, O LORD, You will hear my voice; In the morning I will prepare a worshipful prayer and my requests for You, and watch and wait for You to speak to my heart.

### Matthew 6:9-13 (NIV)

This is then how you should pray: Our Father in Heaven, may Your name always be kept holy, may Your kingdom come soon, and Your will be done, on earth now, as it is always in Heaven. Give us today what we need, for food and living. Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us. Help us to not give in to temptation, and deliver us from the evil one.



## The Main Ideas for Family Discussion

### Discussion introduction:

**Ask:** Do you want to grow closer in your relationship with God?

**If YES, say:** Great! Then we need to learn about how to pray?

**Ask:** Do you remember last week's Kidmania episode?

**If YES, ask:** What do you remember?

**Say:** We learned about what prayer is, and how much God wants you to spend time talking with Him.

**Ask:** Did you know that prayer is the most powerful weapon that a Christian has?

**Say:** It is the number one thing that scares the devil.

**Ask:** Do you know why it is the number one thing that scares the devil?

**Say:** The devil is not scared of you or me. He is scared of God, who fights for you, and sends angels out to do His work.

### Scripture: Hebrews 1:14

**Say:** In Hebrews 1:14 it says: **All the angels are ministering spirits sent out by God to serve, accompany, and protect those who will inherit salvation.**

**Say:** What an amazing thought! I'm ready to start praying like a champion. Are you? [ Yes! ]

**Say:** Some people think that praying is really difficult, like it's another language that you have to learn. This isn't true. Praying to God is just talking with God! We talk with people all the time, so it is something we know we can do.

**Ask:** Who in your life do you really like to talk with? [ family and friends, anyone in particular? ]

**Ask:** Why do you like talking with them?

**Ask:** Do they comfort you and help you? Do they give you good advice? Are they fun? When you talk with them do you feel happy just knowing that they really hear you, understand you, and love you? [ let your child share ]

**Say:** I think it is easier to talk with God than other people because He is always with us, and always available to talk with us.

**Ask:** Have you ever noticed it is not always a good time to talk to another person?

**If YES, ask:** When is it not always a good time to talk with a person?

**Say:** It is not good to talk to another person when they need their privacy, like when they are using the bathroom - or you are using the bathroom. It is not good to talk to another person while they are already having a private conversation with someone else. We need to wait our turn. It is not good to talk in the library in the quiet area where silence is the rule. It is not good to talk to another person while sitting a test at school - like in math class.

**Ask:** Can you talk with God in all these situations? [ Yes! These situations and more. ]

**Say:** Yes! We can talk with God in all of these situations, and more. God is always ready to talk with us. There is never a bad time to pray. Anytime, day and night, and everywhere, we can pray! We could talk to God all the time if we wanted to.

**Say:** King David prayed to God constantly, talking with him as he went about his days and nights. And...King David had a special time in the morning that he dedicated (set apart) to talk with God.

### Scripture: Psalm 5:3

**Say:** In Psalm 5:3 it says: **In the morning, O LORD, You will hear my voice; In the morning I will prepare a worshipful prayer and my requests for You, and watch and wait for You to speak to my heart.**

**Ask:** When did King David give God his full attention? [ every morning, first thing ]

**Say:** King David had special time with God every morning. It was the first thing he did; he would say good morning to God, and tell Him how much he loved God, and thank Him for all His

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goodness. Not only that, he gave God time to speak to him through his heart. He actually waited for God to speak in his heart about all the things he requested.

**Ask:** What do you think King David would do if he did not receive an answer to his prayers in that time?

**Say:** King David would be watching to see how God would answer his prayer as the day went on, and over the next few days. He was very interested to know God's thoughts and plans for him. King David expected an answer, but he was patient in receiving it.

**Life Application:**

**Ask:** Are you interested to know God's thoughts and plans for you?

**Ask:** Do you think you could make time for God first thing in the morning, too?

**Ask:** Do you think you could continue to wait for God to give you answers during the day and over the next few days, believing that God hears you and will answer your prayers?

**Say:** When you are talking with God, you can speak very naturally (normally). Some people like to have a way of speaking with God that is just for Him. In the Bible we read about the disciples being so amazed at the way Jesus would talk with God that they asked Him to teach them how to pray as He did.

**Scripture: Matthew 6:9-13**

**Say:** In Matthew 6:9-13 it says: **This is then how you should pray: Our Father in Heaven, may Your name always be kept holy, may Your kingdom come soon, and Your will be done, on earth now, as it is always in Heaven. Give us today what we need, for food and living. Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us. Help us to not give in to temptation, and deliver us from the evil one.**

**Say:** This is an amazing example that the Lord Jesus has given us in 'HOW' to pray. Some people know this prayer as 'The Lord's Prayer'. Some people have prayed this exact prayer in their heart as they have read it in the Bible. Some kids pray it out loud with their parents right before they go to sleep. Some people pray it out loud with their church. Some people have even memorised it. That's great! It is a great prayer to remember.

**Ask:** Would you like to learn it? Shall we agree that this week we will learn it so that we can recite it whenever we would like to?

**Say:** Jesus wants us to know this prayer well, and pray it often. He knows that sometimes when we pray prayers that we have remembered, we can begin to do it without thinking, or remembering the meaning. He knows that when that happens it's easy to get bored and forget why we are praying in the first place.

**Ask:** Have you noticed how that can happen with some songs that we sing?

**Ask:** That happens with adults as well as kids - did you know that?

**Say:** We forget what we are singing about as we sing the words. It happens with prayer too. Jesus did not mean for His disciples (and us) to just pray this prayer over and over again without remembering the meaning, He wanted us all to understand it, so that we would know how we can pray and what we can pray for.

**Ask:** Do you ever feel like you would like to pray but you don't know how to begin?

**Say:** The Lord's Prayer has been given to us to help us to pray when we feel we don't know exactly how to pray, and it has been given to us as a guide/pattern/starter - steps to follow that we can add our personal thoughts to. We get to make it our own.

**Say:** The enemy hates it when we pray. He wants to stop us praying. And if he can't stop us from praying he tries to distract us, to take power from our prayers. He wants us to pray to everyone but God. He wants us to make wishes, and talk to the universe instead. He wants us to pray to other pretend gods, and angels, and saints, and even Mary (Jesus' mother).

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**Say:** Jesus told us: **This is then how you should pray: Our Father in Heaven...** He doesn't want us to pray to anyone but God the Father. And, He wants us to pray in His (Jesus) name, by the power of the Holy Spirit. Only God the Father has the power to answer our prayers, and He answers those who believe in His Son Jesus. It's our faith in Jesus that makes prayers powerful.

**Ask:** Who do we pray to? [ *Our Heavenly Father - God* ]

**Ask:** What makes our prayers powerful? [ *our faith in Jesus, and the help of the Holy Spirit* ]

**Ask:** What can help us stay focused on God when we pray, so we don't get distracted?

**Say:** We can close our eyes so we are not distracted by things happening around us, and we can put our hands together or on our legs to stop them from being busy. We can use a list to look at as we go, to help us remember how and what to pray. The more we do it, the easier it will get.

### Going deeper – unpacking the WORD!

**Say:** We are going to understand it and make it our own! **Here are Jesus' 5 steps to prayer:**

#### **Say: 1. Start with worship**

**'Our Father in Heaven, may Your name always be kept holy.'**

**Say:** God is better than any celebrity, movie star, or famous person. He is the Creator of the universe and us, and He loves us. He sent His Son Jesus to die on the cross for us, to save us.

**Ask:** Do you think it is a good idea when we begin to talk with God that we speak His name with respect, and that we let Him know how much we love Him, and how great He is?

**Say:** As we do this God will come near to us and hear us. And as we pray in the name of Jesus, who is the King of kings, the Lord of lords, the Name above all names, and our Savior; God will hear our prayers. When we honor the Son, we honor the Father.

#### **Say: 2. Pray God's will**

**'May Your kingdom come soon, and Your will be done, on earth now, as it is always in Heaven.'**

**Say:** The most powerful prayers are the ones that are the same as God's will/plans.

**Ask:** How can we know what God's will and plans are? [ *God's will is in the Bible, and God's will is always loving, and always builds His Kingdom.* ]

**Say:** If we read our Bible and then pray out of what we learn in the Bible then our prayers will not be wrong.

#### **Say: 3. Pray for what you need**

**'Give us today what we need, for food and living.'**

**Say:** God is our loving Father and He does not want us to go without what we really need.

**Ask:** What do you really need each day? [ *food, a safe place to live, clothes, love, education, etc.* ]

**Ask:** Should we also pray for what others need? [ *Yes!* ]

**Ask:** Do you think God already knows what we need? [ *Yes!* ]

**Ask:** If God already knows what we need, why do we need to ask Him? [ *So we will understand that everything that is good comes from Him, and so that we will know that He listens to us* ]

**Say:** Sometimes we can think that God doesn't love us or care when we don't see Him answering our prayers exactly as we asked Him to. God will always answer prayers as it is best for us, and others, and His big plan. It can take some time for us to know that this is good, especially when we feel disappointed. We can also pray that God will help us to be grateful for all we have, have the faith to believe that God can do everything, and the trust to accept what He does and does not do. When we go to Heaven we will understand it all, and we won't be upset about the prayers we don't think He answered soon enough, or as we wanted.

#### **Say: 4. Pray for God to forgive you and give you the strength to forgive others**

**'Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us.'**

**Say:** When we mess up it is important to show God that we are sorry, and to be able to give ourselves back to Him. When we do this, He is very happy to forgive us and let us start again. We feel so much better being forgiven as we don't feel the guilt or shame about it anymore.



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**Ask:** Do you like to be forgiven? Why? How do you feel when someone forgives you?

**Say:** God wants us to show the same kindness to others too. He wants to keep us free from our hurt and anger about what happened. It will only hurt us if we don't GIVE THOSE THINGS UP to Him. It doesn't mean that the other person didn't do a wrong thing, only that we don't have to worry about it anymore. God is a greater judge than us. He will make everything right in the end. God is a really fair, good judge; He will keep on forgiving us for all the times we mess up as long as we keep forgiving others who mess up. When we forgive others, which is hard, we remember what a big thing it is to be forgiven by God, and we're really grateful for it. We can trust Him to work it out while we all have a fresh start to live the life God wants for us.

**Say:** 5. Pray for God's protection.

**Help us to not give in to temptation, and deliver us from the evil one.**

**Say:** Sometimes it can be hard trying to live like Jesus. We are not perfect and sometimes we get tempted to all sorts of silly things, whether we know they're wrong or not. [ briefly share about something simple that you get tempted by that you have to ask for God's help with. ]

**Ask:** What are you tempted to do that is silly or wrong?

**Say:** We all get tempted by things and that's why we need to pray for God's protection - for His protection from the evil one who loves to come and tempt us. Very often when we have a thought to do the wrong thing it is not our own thought, it is our spiritual enemy the devil who wants us to believe it is our own idea. We need to resist it (pray for God's help, to ignore the bad thought, and do a good thing instead). God has promised that He will never tempt us to do a wrong thing, and that He will help us to resist temptation - but we need to choose to resist it as well. We should also be careful to not encourage others to do a wrong thing.

**Ask:** Did you know that God sends angels to protect us from many harms? Did you know that there are twice as many angels as there are demons? (for every 1 demon, there are 2 angels).

**Say:** Angels love to be our invisible helpers because they don't want any attention for themselves - they want us to give our thanks to God - that's what makes them happy. It is always good to pray God will send them to protect us, and thank God for it.

### Life Application:

**Ask:** Will you learn the Lord's prayer?

**If YES, say:** Will you make it your own?

**Say: Say after me:** I can pray in 5 steps!

1. Worship!
2. God's will!
3. Needs - your needs and needs of others!
4. Forgiveness - being forgiven and forgiving others!
5. God's protection!

**Let's Pray!** [ lead your child in prayer encourage them to repeat after you, and fill in the details ]

\* Dear Heavenly Father, thank You that you are... [ words of worship - what is great about God? ]

\* Please help me to know your will about... [ what is happening in their world that they need God's wisdom for and help to pray for and take action in? ]

\* Please meet my need of... [ what? ] And please help [ who? ] with their need of [ what need? ]  
And please use me to help others with what they need.

\* Please forgive me for... [ what? ] And bless me and help me to not do it anymore. And help me to forgive... [ who? ] for... [ what? ] I ask you to bless them and help them too.

\* Please send your angels to protect me from my enemy the devil, and please Holy Spirit help me to know what is right and wrong, and what will please you, and help me to resist sinning when I am tempted.

\* in Jesus' name, Amen!

