



Start Here

Ask your friend to have a conversation, but keep talking and don't let the other person speak. Then give a chance for your friend to talk and explain what you were doing. Ask how it felt when you wouldn't stop talking. Draw a happy face below if it made them happy, and an angry face if it made them angry.

Optional: Ask a parent or guardian: "Have you ever been friends with someone who did all the talking when you were together? How did you feel when this happened?" Write what you learned below.



Explore

God wants us to have a relationship with Him. One way this relationship grows is when we talk to God and listen to God. This is called prayer.

Read your memory verse, 1 John 5:14.

When you see your friends, you talk to them. You say, "Hi," and tell them what's new since you saw them last. It would be weird if you just stood and stared at each other. To have a relationship with another person, you have to communicate — to talk with each other.

The same is true of your relationship with God. God wants us to talk to Him — this is what we call praying. Prayer doesn't have to be done on your knees with your eyes closed, although that might be a good idea sometimes. Prayer can be spoken out loud or thought in your head.

First John 5:14, our memory verse this week says that ... *if we ask anything according to His will He will hear us*. What do you think according to His will means?

When the Bible talks about God's will, it is talking about what God wants to happen. God doesn't give us whatever we want just because we pray for it. Part of prayer is trusting that God knows what you really need and praying that He'll give you what you need, not just what you want.

Let's look at some other truths about prayer.

Look up 1 Thessalonians 5:17 and notice what it says about how often we should pray. Write in your own words what you think this means about how often we should pray.

Look up Philippians 4:6. What should we pray about?

These verses tell us that we should talk with God about everything all the time. We know that God loves us and wants what is best for us. We should always be talking with Him about what He wants us to do — how we can make good choices and how we can help others.

People in the Bible prayed for a lot of different reasons. Look up the following verses and write down the reason why that person prayed.

Luke 22:39-40

Romans 10:1

Colossians 1:3-4

1 Timothy 2:1-2

It is important to remember that a conversation involves two people talking. We need to make sure that we are taking time to listen to God speak to us too. One way we can do that is when we read God's Word, the Bible. You can pray silently to yourself, out loud, or can even write your prayer down. Keep the conversation with God going now by taking a few minutes to talk to Him!

Definitions

Communicate — share information or idea

Praying — having a conversation with God

Discussion Questions

These questions are just a few that your small group will talk about. Think about your responses to the following questions.

1. What is one thing you really need to talk to God about?
2. When you pray do you listen as well as talk to God? What is something in your life that you really need God's opinion on?



Silver Extra Credit

Many of the Epistles begin with a prayer or tell how the writer is praying for the people who will read the letter. Look at this letter written by Paul to the Colossians. What does Paul say he is praying for the people? Read the verse and then answer the question.

Colossians 1:9

What did Paul ask that they be filled with?

Colossians 1:10a

Why did he ask that they be filled with knowledge of God's will?

Colossians 1:10b

What does *walk in a manner worthy of the Lord* look like?

Colossians 1:11

Paul prayed that they would be strengthened in what?

Colossians 1:11

Why did Paul pray that they would be strengthened?

Colossians 1:12

Who did Paul pray that they would give thanks to?

Know This When we pray and talk to God we shouldn't be worried about how we sound, we should just be talking to God. Sometimes though, it is difficult to know what to say. When we are hurting or don't know how to pray the Holy Spirit is there to help. Romans 8:26 says that the Holy Spirit knows our need and at the right time will intercede on our behalf.

Mission Update: PRAY!

POPULATION (2020): 17,706,611



Cambodia

CAPITAL:
Phnom Penh

RELIGION (BY POPULATION %):

83% Buddhist

5% Ethnic Religions

3% Christian

3% Non-Religious

- Pray for the gospel to expand throughout **Cambodia**.
- Pray for an opportunity to share the gospel with someone you know this week.
- Use the space below to record more prayer requests:

Want to learn more about what Awana is doing around the world? Check out www.awana.org/go.



Memorize

1 John 5:14

And this is the confidence that we have toward Him, that if we ask anything according to His will He hears us.

Review

Hebrews 11:6

And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him.



Gold Extra Credit

Psalms 66:20

Blessed be God, because He has not rejected my prayer or removed His steadfast love from me!

Romans 8:26

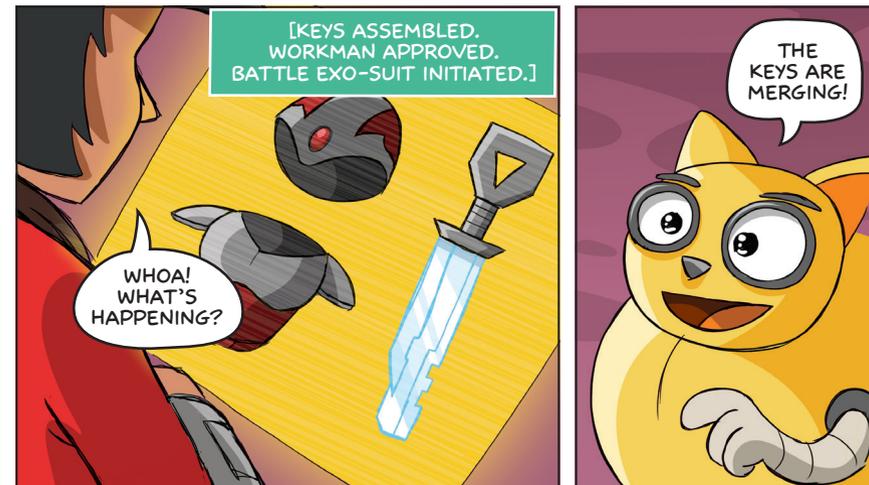
Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

Ephesians 6:18

Praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints.

Philippians 1:9

And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment.



SECTION 4.2 COMPLETED



Leader Signature

Date

EXTRA CREDIT COMPLETED



Leader Initials
SILVER

Date

Leader Initials
GOLD

Date