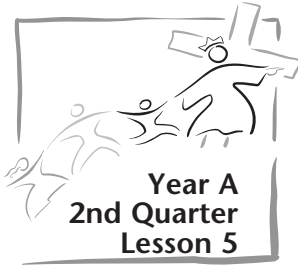


LESSON



Anytime, Anywhere

WORSHIP

We worship God by what we do.

References

Mark 1:35–38; *The Desire of Ages*, pp. 259, 260, 362, 363.

Memory Verse

“Pray to me, and I will listen to you” (Jeremiah 29:12, NIV).

Objectives

The children will:

Know that prayer is important because that is how we talk to Jesus.

Feel that we can talk to Jesus in prayer anytime, anywhere.

Respond by talking to Jesus anytime, anywhere.

The Message



We can talk to Jesus anytime, anywhere.

Getting Ready to Teach

The Bible Lesson at a Glance

Prayer is important to Jesus. It is just as important to Him as doing good things for people. He rises early in the morning and goes to a quiet place where He can talk to His Father without being interrupted by anything or anyone. Jesus does this every day. His Father hears Him and gives Him strength for the day.

This is a lesson about worship.

Prayer can be an important part of our lives too. We can talk to Jesus anytime, anywhere, about anything. But it is good to have a special quiet time alone with Jesus each day. When we talk to Jesus, we are worshipping Him.

Teacher Enrichment

“In order to commune with God, we

FIVE

Program Outline			
LESSON SECTION	MINUTES	ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS NEEDED
Welcome	ongoing	Greet students at door; hear pleased/troubled	none
1 Readiness Options	up to 10	A. <i>Over, Under, Across</i> B. <i>Bubble Prayers</i> C. <i>Who's Talking?</i>	scarf or rope, playground or beach ball, small table or bench bubble solution, bubble blower blindfold
* Prayer and Praise*	up to 10	See page 56. *Prayer and Praise may be used at any time during the program.	
2 Bible Lesson	up to 20	Experiencing the Story	none
		Bible Study	Bible
		Memory Verse	Bible
3 Applying the Lesson	up to 15	<i>When and Where?</i>	slips of paper, basket or bowl, pen or pencil
4 Sharing the Lesson	up to 15	<i>Praying Hands</i>	construction paper or card stock; pens or pencils; scissors; glue and magnets, magnetic tape, or stick-on magnets; <i>optional</i> : glitter, sequins, yarn, etc.

must have something to say to Him concerning our actual life.

"Prayer is the opening of the heart to God as to a friend" (*Steps to Christ*, p. 93).

"All day He toiled . . . and at the eventide or in the early morning, He went away to the sanctuary of the mountains for communion with His Father. Often He passed the entire night in prayer and meditation, returning at daybreak to His work among the people" (*The Desire of Ages*, pp. 259, 260).

"In a life wholly devoted to the good of others, the Savior found it necessary . . . to seek retirement and unbroken communion with His Father. . . . In communion with God He could unburden the sorrows that were crushing Him. Here He found comfort and joy" (*ibid.*, pp. 362, 363).

Room Decorations

See Lesson 1 or use artificial flowers, trees, and plants to create a simple outdoor scene in your room.

Teaching the Lesson

Welcome

Welcome each child by name as they come in the door. Ask them to share the best thing and the worst thing about their week. Follow up on last week's sharing activity.



Readiness Activities

Select the activity most appropriate to your situation.

You Need:

- scarf, rope, or other clothlike material
- small table or bench
- beach or playground ball

A. Over, Under, Across

Lay the scarf or rope on the floor at one end of the room, place the table in the center of the room, and position the ball at the other end of the room.

Ask the children to line up behind the scarf. Tell them they're going on a trip that will take them over the sea, under the bridge, and across the mountain. Explain that the scarf is the "sea" over which they must leap, the table is the "bridge" under which they must crawl, and the ball is a "mountain" over which they must hop. Have the children travel one at a time over the obstacles. When all the children reach the other end of the room, move the ball and scarf a bit closer to the table and travel again. Continue until all three objects are in close succession.

Debriefing

Say: **We just traveled over the sea, under the bridge, and across the mountain. Do you know who else traveled all these places? Jesus did. Do you know what else Jesus did in all these places? He prayed. Jesus talked to God anytime, anywhere. We can do that too.**



We can talk to Jesus anytime, anywhere.

That's our message for today. Let's say it together.

Adapted from Susan L. Lingo, *Saving Your Sanity: A Creative System for Teaching Preschoolers* (Loveland, Colo.: Group Publishing, Inc., 1997), p. 51.

You Need:

- bubble solution
- bubble blower

B. Bubble Prayers

Ask the students to sit in a circle. Blow a few bubbles for the children.

Allow response time as you ask: **Do you like playing with bubbles? Why? Who made bubbles for us to play with? What do we say when someone does something nice for us? (Thank you.) Yes. We thank people who do something nice for us. Do you think Jesus**

likes it when we thank Him for the things He does for us? Yes, I'm sure He does. There are many things for which we can thank Jesus. I'm going to give each of you a chance to make some bubbles, and as you do, I want you to name something for which you can thank Jesus.

Give each child a chance to blow bubbles or wave the bubble wand to create bubbles. Encourage them to name something for which they are thankful as they do. You may need to prompt the children to help them remember everyday blessings, such as homes, families, food, clothing, pets, schools, etc. (Large class, have bubble solution and blower for each group of five children.)

Say: **I have something else I want to thank Jesus for. I am thankful that**



We can talk to Jesus anytime, anywhere.

That's our message for today. Let's say it together.

C. Who's Talking?

You Need:

- blindfold

Ask: **Is anyone here a good listener?** Choose a child who says he/she is a good listener. Say: **I'm going to blindfold you so you can't see, and then I'm going to point to someone in the class. That person will talk to you, and you will try to guess who it is. The rest of the boys and girls will be very quiet.** Bring your volunteer up front and blindfold him or her. Point to one of the children and ask that child to begin talking. If the blindfolded child guesses correctly right away, repeat with several children, or try rearranging the children so the blindfolded child can't remember who was sitting where. Allow as many children to be blindfolded as time allows. (Note: If the children who are speaking have a hard time thinking of something to say, suggest they say a memory verse, count to five, etc.)

Debriefing

Allow response time as you ask: **Was it easy or hard to guess who was talking? Was it easy or hard for everybody else to be quiet while just one person talked? I know someone who always knows who is talking to Him, and who is always ready to listen to anything we have to say. Do you know who that is? Yes, it's Jesus. And I'm glad that**



We can talk to Jesus anytime, anywhere.

Say that with me.



NOTE: Prayer and Praise appears on page 56.

2

Bible Lesson

Experiencing the Story**Setting the Scene**

Have the children sit as near to the garden decorations as possible, preferably on the floor. Practice the actions as noted below before beginning the story.

	Actions
sleeping	(lie down or rest head on folded hands)
stretch	(as if waking up or tired)
yawn	(as if sleepy)
wind blowing	
night bird sounds	
cricket chirping sounds	

Read or tell the story.

Imagine that you are **sleeping**. When you wake up, do you **yawn** and **stretch**? [Have the children yawn and stretch.] Have you ever been awake so early that it was still dark outside? Did you see the moon? Did you see any stars? Did it feel like morning? No, not yet. It still felt like nighttime.

Was it very quiet? It's usually quiet very early in the morning. You might hear the **wind blowing** gently through the trees. How would that sound? [Help the children make a gentle blowing sound.] Some birds sleep during the day and are awake at night. You might hear the **sounds of the night birds**. [Help the children make night bird sounds.] Can you think of any other sounds you might hear if you got up very early? Do you think you might hear **crickets**? What sounds do **crickets** make? [Help the children make chirping sounds. Accept other sugges-

tions the children might have about night sounds.]

Those are the sounds that Jesus heard early in the morning before the sun came up. You see, Jesus would wake up very early in the morning so He could be alone. Do you have any idea why Jesus wanted to be alone so early in the morning?

Jesus wanted to be alone so He could have time to talk to God, His heavenly Father. Later in the day people would want to talk to Jesus. They would bring sick people to Him so He could make them well. Children would ask Jesus to tell them stories and to bless them.

Jesus talked to God about the sick people He would see that day. He talked to God about the children who would come to hear the stories. He talked to God about His special friends, the disciples. He even talked to God about the people who were mean to Him. He told God all the things that were bothering Him, and He asked God to help Him always do the right thing. Jesus loved the people, and He wanted to be with them and help them.

And while Jesus was teaching the people and healing them and telling stories, He prayed to God silently by thinking the words in His head. He asked God to help Him heal the sick people. He asked God to help Him tell the right stories. He asked God to help Him be kind and patient with the people. But talking to God all day in His head wasn't enough. Jesus needed a time when there were no other voices around. That's why Jesus got up so early—so He could listen to God tell Him what to do.

God always listened to Jesus. He helped Jesus feel calm and strong. He helped Jesus with all His work. Just as

He listened to Jesus, God always listens to our prayers.

We can talk to Jesus every day too. We can talk to Jesus anytime, anywhere, just as Jesus talked to His heavenly Father in His head during the day. We can also have special times when we talk to Jesus, just as Jesus had a special time early in the morning when He talked to God.

Debriefing

Allow response time as you ask: **Why did Jesus pray to His Father in heaven? Why do you think He prayed early in the morning? in the evening? Is it important to talk to Jesus every day? Why? When is a good time for you to pray? (anytime) Where do you go to pray? Let's remember our message for today:**



We can talk to Jesus anytime, anywhere.

Say that with me.

Bible Study

You Need:

Bible

Hold your Bible so the children can see it. Open it to Mark 1:35-38 and point to the

verses as you say: **This is where today's story is found in God's Word, the Bible.** Read verses 35-38 aloud.

Debriefing

Say: **Our Bibles tell us that Jesus got up very early to pray. The Bible also says that Jesus went to a solitary place. That means He went someplace where He could be alone. Sometimes He went to a garden. Sometimes He went to a mountain. Maybe He went to the seashore sometimes. Should you go off to places by yourself? Maybe when you are much older, but right**

now who should know where you are at all times? (Mom and Dad, the adult in charge of me, my teacher, etc.)

So where are some places we can talk to God? (Accept answers. If necessary, prompt the children to name places at home, school, the babysitter's, church, etc.)

Jesus talked to God anytime, anywhere. And . . .



We can talk to Jesus anytime, anywhere.

Let's say that together.

Memory Verse

Turn to Jeremiah 29:12 and hold the Bible so the children can see the verse. Say: **This is where our memory verse is found in God's Word, the Bible.** Read aloud: **"Pray to me, and I will listen to you"** (NIV). Set the Bible down and say: **This is our memory verse for this week. Let's learn it together.**

Use the following actions to teach the memory verse to the children.

You Need:

Bible

"Pray

Fold hands in front of you.



to me, and I

Point index finger upward.



will listen

Touch ears with hands.



to you."

Point outward.



Jeremiah 29:12

Palms together; then open.



Repeat until the children can say the verse without your help.

Allow response time as you ask: **Who is speaking in this verse? Who is the "I"? Yes, it's God. God is using this verse to tell us that if we pray to Him, He will listen to us.**

PRAYER AND PRAISE



Fellowship

Report the children’s joys and sorrows (pleased and troubled) as reported to you at the door (as appropriate). Give a special warm greeting to visitors and introduce each by name. Acknowledge birthdays or special events. Review last week’s memory verse.

Suggested Songs

- “Pray” (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 231)
- “Come Praise the Lord” (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 211)
- “Praying Every Day” (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 232)
- “Whisper a Prayer” (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 233)

Mission

Share a story from *Children’s Mission*.

Offering

Say: **Our offering goes to help other people know that Jesus loves them and that they can talk to Him anytime, anywhere. Giving our offering is one way we show Jesus that we love Him.**

Prayer

Ask: **What is your favorite place? What do you like to do there?** Allow time for responses. **Those are all times and places where you can talk to Jesus. Let’s talk to Him now.** Pray a simple prayer, thanking Jesus for being with us while we (name some of the things the children like to do). Close by saying, **Thank You, Jesus, that we can talk to You anytime, anywhere.**

*Prayer and Praise may be used at any time during the program.

3

Applying the Lesson

When and Where?

You Need:

- small slips of paper
- bowl or basket
- pen or pencil

In advance, write on a small slip of paper each of the scenarios that follow. Select those that are appropriate for your class. You may think of others.

Place the papers in a small bowl or basket. Ask a child to choose one of the papers. Read the scenario aloud and ask the child to pretend that what is written on the

cutout is happening to him or her. Ask: **How do you feel? What can you say to Jesus?** Allow the child to ask the others for help if desired. Repeat until all the papers have been used.

1. You’re riding in the car, and it begins to rain so hard you can’t see the road.
2. Someone at your school or day care hits you.
3. You hear a strange sound in your house late at night.

4. Your mom has a new baby and it takes a lot of your mom's time.
5. You get a new pet.
6. No one will play with you.
7. Your little brother or sister keeps getting into your things.
8. A bad storm is going on.
9. Someone you love is very sick.
10. You are in bed thinking about the great day you've had.
11. Your mom made your favorite meal.
12. The other children are playing a game you don't know how to play.
13. You're at a new school or day care and you don't know anyone.
14. You wake up very early, before anyone else in your family.

Debriefing

Allow response time as you ask: **How many of you have had some of these things happen to you? What did you do? When and where can we talk to Jesus? Remember,**



We can talk to Jesus anytime, anywhere.

Say that with me.

4

Sharing the Lesson**Praying Hands**

Have the children trace their handprints and cut them out. Glue the handprints together along the little-finger edge only so the hands can be folded together as if in prayer. Neatly print the words to the memory verse inside the folded hands. Allow the children to decorate the front with glitter, sequins, yarn, etc., if you wish. Attach magnet to the back.

Debriefing

Encourage the children to take their hands home and share them with someone today. Allow response time as you ask: **Who do you think might**

enjoy having what you made today? Take these praying hands home to share with your family or give to someone else. Say your memory verse to the person as you give it to them. Tell them that this is to remind them that Jesus always hears their prayers. It will help them to remember that



We can talk to Jesus anytime, anywhere.

Let's say that together one more time.

You Need:

- construction paper or card stock
- pens or pencils
- scissors
- glue and magnets, magnetic tape, or stick-on magnets
- glitter, sequins, yarn, etc. (optional)

Closing

In a short prayer, thank Jesus for each child, ask for His blessings on them during the week, and especially thank Him for listening to us whenever and wherever we pray.

STUDENT LESSON

Anytime, Anywhere

References

Mark 1:35–38;
The Desire of Ages,
 pp. 259, 260,
 362, 363

Memory Verse

“Pray to me, and I
 will listen to you”
 (Jeremiah 29:12,
 NIV).

The Message

We can talk to
 Jesus anytime,
 anywhere.

What is the most quiet place you know? Is it a special place you like outside? Is it your own special thinking spot? Jesus had a favorite quiet place too.

The birds cooed, and the crickets chirped. Almost everyone was asleep. That’s because it was very early in the morning, just before daylight. But someone was up.

It was Jesus. Every morning Jesus woke up very early, before everybody else. He liked this time because it was so quiet. It gave Him a chance to spend time alone with God.

Later in the day people would crowd around Jesus to listen to Him and ask questions. They would bring sick people for Him to heal. Children would ask for stories.

Jesus loved to tell stories and to help and to heal people. But before He could spend all day with the people, He knew that He needed some time alone to talk to His heavenly Father.

Jesus told His Father, God, how much He loved Him. He told God about the sinful things all around Him that made His heart sad. He told God about the people who were sick and the people who needed help. He told God about His special friends, the disciples. Jesus

asked God to keep Him strong so He could help others.

And God always answered Jesus’ prayers. He would help Jesus feel safe and calm. When Jesus finished praying, His heart was full of love. Then He was ready to start His day with the people.

Jesus talked to God early in the morning. Later in the day, while teaching and healing and telling stories, He prayed to God silently by thinking the words in His head. He asked God to help Him heal the sick, to tell the right stories, to be kind and patient. He talked to His heavenly Father all day long.

You can talk to Jesus anytime, anywhere too. You can talk to Jesus anytime you’re sad or happy or afraid. You can talk to Jesus in the car, at day care, or at home.

Find your own special quiet time in your house in the morning to talk to Jesus. At the end of the day, find some time to talk with Jesus about your day. And in between, tell Jesus how much you love Him. He will always listen to you, because He loves you.



Do and Say

Sabbath

If possible, read the Bible lesson story outside. Use the following actions as you practice saying the memory verse together each day this week.

“Pray to me, and I will listen to you.”

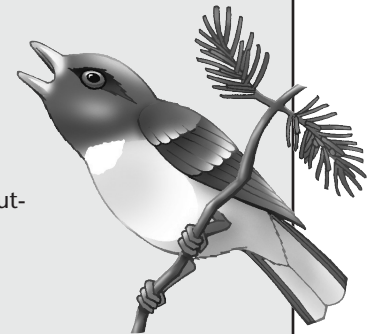
Jeremiah 29:12

Fold hands in front of you.
Point index finger upward.
Touch ears with hands.
Point outward.
Put palms together; then open.

which to thank Jesus before blowing each bubble. Count the bubbles together. End with prayer.

Wednesday

Listen to bird songs. How many different songs do you hear? Ask: What do you think Jesus heard when He got up early? What do you think He prayed about? While you are outside, thank Jesus for the birds.



Sunday

Assist in saying the memory verse as your child shares the “praying hands” made in Sabbath School.

Review the Bible story. Talk about when and where your family can pray (anytime, anywhere). Sing a prayer song before you pray.



Thursday

Encourage your child to decide on a special place to pray. Help your child make a picture that shows him or her praying in that special place.

Sing a prayer song; then thank Jesus for listening to your family’s prayers anytime, anywhere.

Monday

If possible, early in the morning read the Bible lesson together from Mark 1:35–38. Talk about early-morning times with your child. Sing a song about morning. Thank God for the morning light.

Tuesday

Use bubble solution and let your child blow some bubbles. Ask your child to think of something for

Friday

Help your child act out the Bible lesson for family worship by leading the family to four different places for prayer. Pray a part of the “acts” prayer at each place (A—adoration, C—confession, T—thanksgiving, S—supplication).

Have your child lead your family in saying the memory verse (with motions). Sing some praise songs together.