

Jesus Prays (Matthew 26:36-46)

March 27, 2020



PLAN

Supplies

Basic Supplies: CEB Deep Blue Kids Bible | Deep Blue Bible Storybook | Deep Blue Adventure Video | Pencils | Crayons | Markers | Scissors | Tape | Mural paper

Gather: Cup of water | Bread or crackers

Explore: No additional supplies

Respond: No additional supplies

Bless: No additional supplies

Before You Begin

After their last meal together, Jesus went to the garden of Gethsemane to do what he had done so many times—pray to God. He asked his disciples to stay alert and pray too, but they fell asleep. He knew he would die soon. Three times he prayed and asked God to remove his suffering. Each time he also told God he would do God’s will. He listened for God to talk to him and answer his prayer. God showed him what he must do, and Jesus obeyed God’s instructions. Prayer was the way Jesus spoke to God and listened for God’s instructions. Prayer is also our way to communicate with God.

Prayer Cube (Craft)

Before class: Print a copy of Prayer Cube for each person. If you have access to card stock, you can print the cube on that to make it sturdier.

SAY: Jesus had often gone to the garden of Gethsemane to be alone and pray to God. After the Last Supper with his disciples, Jesus needed some time in prayer, so he went to the garden.

ASK: What do you think Jesus was feeling when he was praying in the garden?

SAY: We can pray to God anytime anywhere for anything.

- Give everyone a copy of “Prayer Cube.” Then follow these directions:
 - Color and decorate your cube to make it beautiful.
 - Cut out your cube, around the dotted lines.
 - Fold all of the solid lines and form your cube.
 - Glue the tabs inside the cube and allow the glue to dry.

SAY: We will use our cubes for prayer time. You can use your cube for your personal prayer time.

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EXPLORE

Read the Bible Story

- Find Matthew 26:36-46 in your Bible. Read the story from the Bible or read the retelling from the *Deep Blue Bible Storybook*.

ASK: How many times did Jesus go into the garden and pray to God? (3) What did he ask the disciples to do? (*stay awake, keep alert*)

See the Bible Story

SAY: The Deep Blue Kids are assigned to teams for a school project. Caleb is paired with someone he doesn't know, and he is very anxious about it.

- Watch today's episode from the Adventure DVD.

TIP: You can find the video on Amplify by searching "Jesus Prays."

ASK: Who prays with you when you are worried or anxious?

BLESS

Sacred Conversations

SAY: Prayer is how we talk to God. Jesus prayed to talk to God. God listens to us all when we pray. God loves us very much and cares about the things we pray for.

SAY: There are many ways to pray. You can fold your hands and say or think words to God. You could sit quietly with your eyes closed and listen for what God wants you to know. You can take a walk and notice the beauty of God's creation around you.

ASK: How do you pray? Where do you pray? When do you pray?

Blessing

SAY: Before we end today, we are going to share a blessing with each other. Blessings show how special you are to God.

- Go around the room and say the blessing to each child.

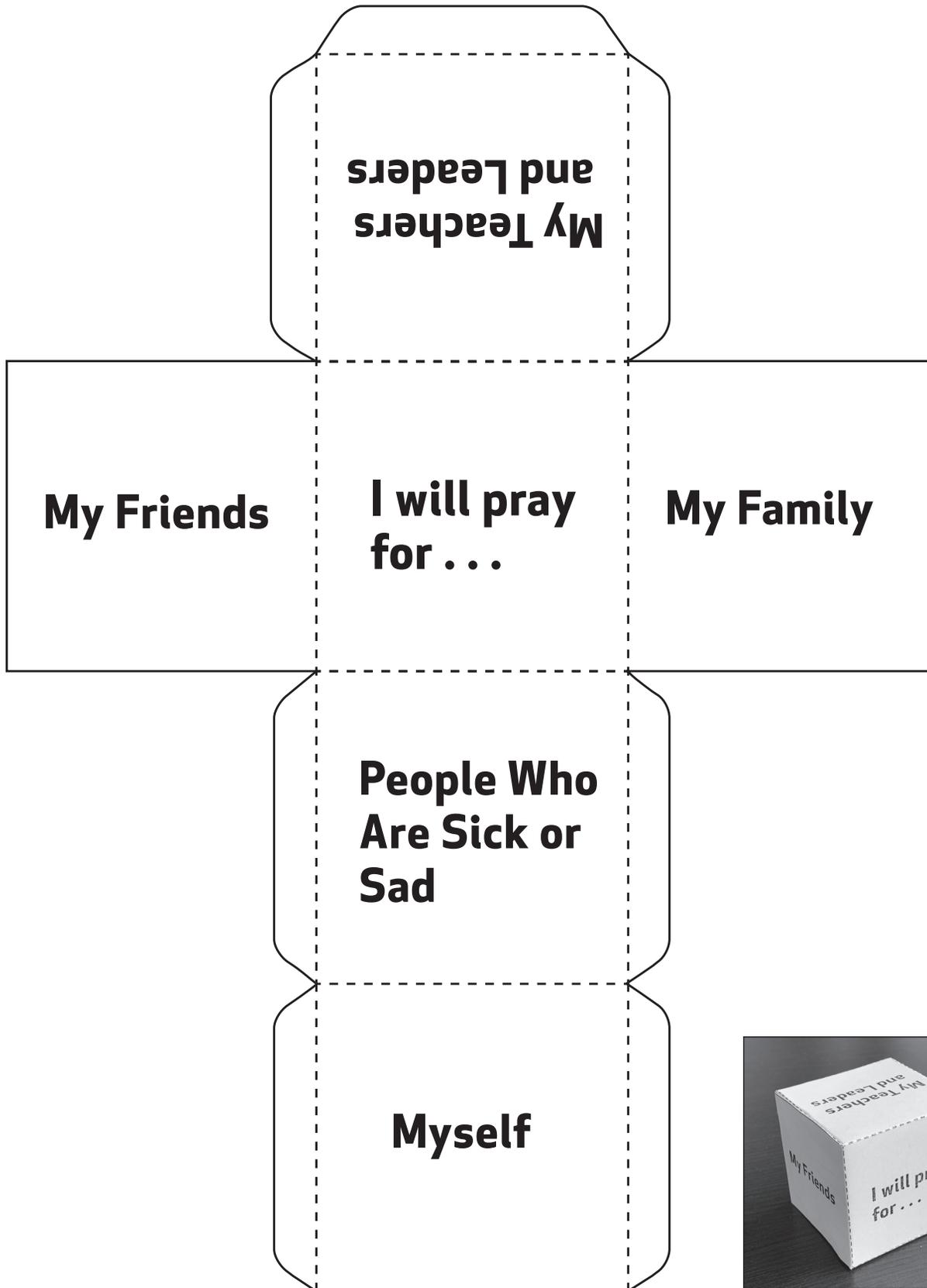
SAY: (Person's name), God loves you. God remembers you. God will always be with you.

- Gather your prayer cubes. Take turns rolling your cube and praying.

SAY: Roll your prayer cube. Read what is written on the side facing up. Say a prayer for that person or group.

Prayer Cube - Craft

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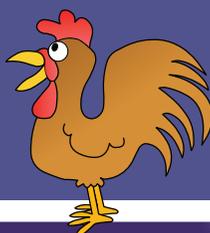
In the Garden

Matthew 26:31-58

When Jesus and his friends, the disciples, got to the Mount of Olives, Jesus looked at Peter, one of his best friends. Jesus said, "Peter, before the rooster crows tonight, you will tell people you don't know me three times."

Peter was shocked, "I would never deny knowing you, Jesus!"





Jesus and the disciples kept walking on to the Mount of Olives until they came to a garden called Gethsemane. Jesus said, "Please stay here while I go pray."

Jesus, Peter, and Zebedee's two sons walked further in. Jesus began to feel sad and worried.

Jesus said to his three friends, "I am very sad. It is as if I am dying. Please stay here while I pray. Keep watch."

Jesus walked a little farther into the garden. He fell on his face and prayed, "Father, please take away my pain if you can. If you can't, I will do what you want and not what I want."



Jesus walked back to his friends. They were asleep! Jesus said to Peter, "Couldn't you stay awake while I prayed? Stay awake while I pray some more."

Jesus went to pray again, saying, "Father, please take away my pain if you can. Let it be what you want."



Again, Jesus walked back to his friends to find them asleep, so he went back to praying.

Jesus went to pray again, saying, "Father, please take away my pain if you can."

Then he came back to his disciples and said, "Will you sleep all night? It's time for my arrest. Get up. My betrayer is here!"

Judas and a crowd of people walked toward Jesus. Judas kissed Jesus on the cheek. The crowd arrested Jesus, and the disciples ran away.



The crowd took Jesus to the high priest. Peter sneaked along, following Jesus to the courtyard of the high priest, Caiaphas. ☁️



Jesus was scared, so he prayed to God to help him. What do you do when you feel scared?

