

# PRAYER WARRIORS

## LARGE GROUP LESSON

### **BOTTOM LINE:**

Thank God for the good things he has done.

### **OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will learn that they need say prayers of thankfulness.

### **KEY PASSAGE:**

1 Chronicles 29:10-20, David's Prayer

### **INTRO**

If you needed to talk to your Mom or Dad, how would you do it? Most likely, you'd go to them, probably at home, and let them know you need to talk. Maybe you talk in your room. Maybe you chat in the car. Either way, you can sit down and talk face to face with your parents just about any time they are available.

If you needed to talk to your friend, how would you do that? For older kids, a good friend is sometimes a text or a Tweet away. Maybe you talk online or on your phones. Maybe you talk in person, if you live close by or have time at school. Or maybe you go old school and simply write them a note on a piece of school paper.

If that's how you talk to your parents and your friends, then how do you talk to God? That's a good question, isn't it? Mom and Dad are right there at home. Your friends are right there at school. But God? We can't see him, can we? And we only go to church once or twice a week. So how do you talk to God?

The truth is talking to God is something you can do anytime, anywhere. God is everywhere, and when you become a Christian, his Holy Spirit lives inside you. We have access to God any time we want it. In fact, God is more available than your parents or your friends ever will be!

During the next few weeks, we're going to learn how to pray. Prayer is simply talking to God. It doesn't require any special words or language.

# LARGE GROUP LESSON

It simply requires us to be honest with God and to be silent so God can speak to us.

Today, we're going to look at a prayer of David. David was just a shepherd boy when he was chosen by God to become a king. He slayed a giant, united God's people, and wrote most of the book of Psalms. As David neared the end of his life, he began to look back at all the good things God had done. Overwhelmed by all the blessings, David offered up a prayer of thanks.

## **READ 1 CHRONICLES 29:10-20**

### **MAIN POINT**

David knew that all of the good things he had come from God. He knew that all of the good things his people now enjoyed were blessings from the Lord. In front of all the people, David praised God, thanking him for all the blessings God had given to him and his people. He asked God to bless his son, and to use him to carry on the work David started.

David knew that his son, Solomon, and the people of Israel could do great things if they stayed faithful to the Lord. By offering this prayer, David set an example for them, and for us. He shows us that we need to thank God first and foremost when we pray, and always be mindful of God's blessings.

### **DRIVE IT HOME**

Saying "thank you" is one of the most important lessons our parents teach us. When someone answers our request, we say thank you. When they send us a gift for our birthday, we send a thank you card.

Saying thank you to God is more than just good manners. It's a way of reminding ourselves that God is the giver of all good things. We need to thank God on our good days. We need to thank him when we get good news. We need to thank him for answering prayers.

Just as important, we need to thank God on our bad days. When all is wrong with the world, when we don't get the grade we wanted, when we just want everyone to go away and leave us alone, we need to say a prayer of thanks.

Being thankful when we are down in the dumps is the first step to pulling ourselves out of the dumps. The more we thank God, the more we realize how blessed we are. The more blessed we feel, the harder it is to stay sad or angry.

God has given us a beautiful world. He gave us people who love us and people we enjoy. He's made us all unique, and he has a special purpose for all of us. There's so much to be thankful for, how can we not praise his name?

# LARGE GROUP LESSON

When you pray, don't start in with a list of what you want or need. Start every prayer by thanking God for all the good things he has done.

## **CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER**

*Dear God,*

*Thank you for all the good things you have given us. Teach us to count our blessings in good times and bad.*

*In Jesus' name,*

*Amen*