

7 Ways to pray with children

TALK acrostic

Talking to God is praying. These are steps of a simple prayer time.

Thank God

Ask God for forgiveness and help

Listen to God quietly

Knock and ask for God's help; Keep knocking for prayer answers

Hand signs for praying

Use these to signal a prayer without using words. Everyone can pause and pray in their minds.

- Love sign to pray for a loved one
- Thumbs up to praise God
- Blow kiss to heaven-thank God
- Wiggle little finger to ask for small blessings,
- Peace sign to ask for forgiveness
- Cross pointer fingers of two hands, and then point up to thank God for dying for you, Hands together for prayer to say amen as a way to agree to God's will
- Cross arms over chest. That's to tell God you love him and thank him for loving you. Open wide to send hugs to God

Handy Bully Buster Prayer

Let your hand guide your prayer for protection

- Thumbs up—Ask Almighty God for protection (on top when fist is made).
- Pointer finger—Thank God for your good points (talents/character) and point out the problem to God.
- Middle finger — Pray for wisdom to find middle ground of a safer place to go.
- Ring finger of protection-Ask God for a ring of friends, to help protect one another
- Little finger —A little forgiveness goes a long way, so forgive bullies.
- Hold up your hand and ask God to “Stop the Bullying.” Pray for courage to wave goodbye, turn, and leave when bullies show up.

Chalk Talk Praise

Chalk up praise! Write on sidewalk praises to God and thanks for your blessings. Draw hearts and write your words inside the heart. Add a rainbow to recall God's promises.

Ball Prayers

Form a circle. Use a ball's motion to prompt prayers.

- Throw the ball high and praise God.
- Bounce the ball and thank God that he forgives us.
- Pass the ball and share a blessing. Thank God for the blessing.
- Roll the ball and thank God for rolling along with you.
- Dribble the ball around someone and pray for the person.
- Try keeping the ball in the air and pray for persistence.
- Toss a ball. The one who catches it thanks God for listening and answering prayers.

Worship Bubbles

Grab jars of bubbles and bubble wands, and head outside.

Take turns letting each person say a praise and blow bubbles toward heaven to worship God. Let everyone clap or follow with an applause of bubbles.

Play a worship song and have a bubble blast of everyone blowing bubbles at the same time.

Sphere of Influence

Let your children realize they can impact lives with filling out a US map (or use a world map if they travel a lot). They will see they can pray for people they know all over and they have people they can write to or call to share their faith.

1. Mark where you live with a black dot.
2. Mark a red dot anywhere else you have lived, and any place you have visited.
3. Mark a green dot anywhere you have relatives living.
4. Mark a blue dot anywhere you have a pen pal or e-mail friend. Include any places where friends have moved whom you can call or mail.
5. Draw lines to connect each dot to your home black dot.

As the map is covered, you'll see how far reaching your influence can be. Everywhere you go you leave an impression. Make sure the marks you leave remind others of Christ!



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